



BELLEVILLE - AREA INDEPENDENT

Vol. 18.28 Thursday, July 12, 2012

Serving the Communities of Belleville, Sumpter and Van Buren

FREE

Sarah Palin to speak at Tea Party event in VBT Sat.

Sarah Palin, former Alaska Governor and 2008 Republican vice presidential candidate, will be the keynote speaker at Saturday's "Patriots in the Park" event at the Wayne County Fairgrounds in Van Buren Township.

Palin confirmed on Monday that she would attend, said Dennis Moore, director of the Willow Run Tea Party Caucus, which is sponsoring the event with Americans for Prosperity.

The event starts at noon and runs to 6 p.m. Admission is free, but parking is \$5 per car. Proceeds will go to the Fallen and Wounded Soldiers Fund.

Master of Ceremonies will be Tayrone X, the popular radio talk show host on WAAM, Ann Arbor.

Michigan Senator Patrick Colbeck, Dennis Moore, and Art Metcalf will give a three-part Patriot Tribute.

Other scheduled speakers are Troy Mayor Janice Daniels, Union Conservatives founder Terry Bowman, leaders from Americans for Prosperity and Tea Party members, including

the Rev. Levon Yuille, Scott Hagerstrom, Dr. David Janda, Lynn Phillips, and Daniel Benefiel.

Palin, 48, is politician, commentator and author. As the Republican Party nominee for Vice President in the 2008 presidential election, she was the first Alaskan on the national ticket of a major party and first Republican woman nominated for the vice presidency.

According to Wikipedia information, Palin's book *Going Rogue* has sold more than two million copies. Since January 2010, she has provided political commentary for Fox News, and hosted a television show, *Sarah Palin's Alaska*. Five million viewers tuned in for the first episode, a record for The Learning Channel.

Palin was elected to Wasilla City Council in 1992 and became mayor of Wasilla in 1996. In 2003, after an unsuccessful run for lieutenant governor, she was appointed Chairman of the Alaska Oil and Gas Conservation Commission, responsible for

overseeing the state's oil and gas fields for safety and efficiency.

The youngest person and first woman to be elected Governor of Alaska, Palin held the office from December 2006 until her resignation in July 2009. She has since endorsed and campaigned for the Tea Party movement, as well as several candidates in the 2010 midterm elections.

From the time of her Vice Presidential nomination in 2008, Palin was considered a potential candidate for the 2012 presidential election until she announced in October 2011 that she would not run.

Willow Run Tea Party Caucus secretary Denise Schlotz said there will be a number of tables available Saturday for tea party groups, candidates, and event-related sales. Cost per table is \$100, with all the proceeds from the tables going to the *Fallen and Wounded Soldiers Fund*, a Michigan charity helping Michigan soldiers and their families.

For more information call Schlotz at (734)



Sarah Palin

434-2960 or email her at DCSchlotz@comcast.net.

Kovach files petition with Circuit Court seeking his land splits

By Rosemary K. Otzman
Independent Editor

On Monday, attorney John Day filed a Petition for Mandamus in Wayne County Circuit Court asking the court to direct Van Buren Township to approve the parcel divisions requested by his client Louis Kovach.

On May 8 the VBT Parcel Division Board denied Kovach's request for splits of a portion of the former Coy Kendall Greenhouse property at the corner of Bemis and Martinsville roads.

The petition filed Monday questions the legal authority for the denial and says, in any case, the township is *estopped* from raising the legal authority because Kovach and the late Homer Morris were led to believe the requested divisions were legal

by the former VBT Director of Planning and Economic Development Bryce Kelley.

The letter of denial from the township said Kovach has the right to appeal through the VBT Board of Zoning Appeals.

But, in a June 22 letter to the parcel Review Board, Day said it is their opinion that there is no authority for the Board of Zoning Appeals to be involved in this matter.

"It is clearly beyond the scope of authority granted in the Township's Zoning Act and the Township's own Ordinance," Day wrote.

Day sent a courtesy copy of the petition he planned to file on behalf of his client to the VBT Parcel Review Board on June 22, saying Kovach has asked the filing of the law suit with the court to be put on hold for

one week to give the township a chance to reconsider and avoid unnecessary fees and expenses on both sides.

When there was no response, Kovach gave the township a second week to reconsider. When, again, there was no response, he directed his attorney to file the 15-page petition with the court.

In the petition, after arguing the legal aspects of the land division, Day goes into the details of his estoppel argument. (According to an on-line business dictionary, estoppel supports a claim for damages of the party that had a good-faith reliance on a misleading representation of another party.)

The petition states Homer Morris, a former owner of the property, went to VBT Director of Planning and Economic Development Bryce Kelley, who also sat as a member of the Parcel Division Board.

Together they developed a plan for using the division provisions of the Land Division Act to divide his property into 11 buildable sites.

"Due to his positions within the Township,

Homer Morris had no reason to believe that the facts and ideas as presented by Mr. Kelley were not correct," the petition states.

"In fact, when the plan was submitted to the Parcel Division Board for the easterly properties, it was approved. This occurred even though the application contained divisions that included the 30-foot access strips for the flag lots which the Township now rejects.

"In reliance upon Mr. Kelley and the actions of the Parcel Division Board, Homer Morris borrowed money from Louis Kovach, spent that money on the engineering and demolition costs related to implementing the project.

"Mr. Kovach was induced to loan the money based upon the representations of Mr. Kelley when the plan was explained to him and then later approved by the Parcel Division Board.

"It would seem wholly inequitable, that after incurring nearly \$400,000 in debt, the Township be allowed to deny these

(continued on page 18)

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SECOND FRONT PAGE

Judge: VBT game show champ owes some winnings to ex-friend

By Rosemary K. Oztman
Independent Editor

34th District Court Judge David Parrott ruled on May 16 that Rebecca Kesler of Van Buren Township owes some \$13,000 to her former friend, Kevin Hirsch, who helped her get on the Who Wants to Be a Millionaire television game show where she won \$50,000.

But, Kesler doesn't agree that she owes Hirsch anything.



Rebecca Kesler

Using court documents in the public domain, the *Independent* has assembled the following report.

In a scheduled July 16, 9 a.m. court session in Romulus, Judge Parrott will be asked to appoint former Judge Stephen C. Cooper of White Lake as a Receiver, with the power under state law to use police and court officers to enter Kesler's home, using a locksmith, if necessary, to seize items and a long list of other things to satisfy the judgment.

As Receiver, the judge has the power to direct local police to break down the door to her house, if necessary, to gain entry for the seizures.

Reportedly, Court Officer Vic Lotycz has provided an affidavit that he went to Kesler's house seven or eight times to collect the judgment, but he allegedly was refused entry.

Judge Cooper is the same person who served as Receiver in claims against former Tiger star Denny McClain and in 2008 had police enter McClain's Brighton home to seize assets. (McClain had lived in Van Buren Township's Lemon Tree apartments for a while.)

But Kesler filed a response brief last week in opposition to Hirsch's motion to appoint a Receiver, saying she had filed a Claim of Appeal on the matter in Circuit Court on May 16 and it has been assigned to Judge Colombo. Therefore, she said, Judge Parrott's court no longer has jurisdiction.

Also, Kesler said in her response brief that the entire contents of her home are the personal property of the Trust of Timothy Szetela and/or Timothy Szetela and that she has no ownership interest in any personal property contained in her residence. Szetela is her husband.

In her response, she states, "Plaintiff and his counsel are both well aware (and have repeatedly stated on the record) that Defendant has virtually no income and has little to no assets." She also asked that Hirsch and his attorney be sanctioned for harassing her and filing a motion before a court with no jurisdiction to consider the issue.

Kesler won \$50,000 in 2010 on the Who Wants to Be a Millionaire television game show after Hirsch helped her get on the show, facts she does not dispute.

An email shows that Hirsch had offered to help her get on the show and if she won anything, she was to pay him one-third of her winnings. He needed certain information to proceed and she gave him what he needed.

Judge Parrott rejected her claim that she told Hirsch in a telephone call that he wouldn't get anything if he helped her get on the show and she won some money.

"... I find the Defendant's position so incredible that no juror would accept it as true," Judge Parrott said in a May 18, 2011 court session.

"Defendant has provided no evidence, other than her own self-serving, wholly incredible deposition testimony that such a counter offer was made, let alone accepted

by the Plaintiff, in the face of her acceptance of the Plaintiff's offer," Judge Parrott said in the same court session.

Judge Parrott had asked for briefs on the amount Hirsch should get and then verbally chastised Kesler for her brief which argued at length that Hirsch should get nothing. On Nov. 4, 2011, Judge Parrott imposed a sanction of \$413 against Kesler.

In 2004, Hirsch helped Kesler's husband Tim Szetela get selected for the Super Millionaire game show. Szetela got a trip to New York City for the competition and he took his wife along, but he won no money and Hirsch asked for none.

Both Kesler and Hirsch are attorneys and once worked at the same law firm – and once were friends. Szetela is finance officer for Cash Connection and a Democratic candidate for Van Buren Township supervisor in the Aug. 7 primary election.

Kesler and Szetela are the parents of two sets of twins and have lived in Country Walk subdivision since 2005.

Last year, Hirsch's breach of contract law suit against Kesler inched its way through district court and then circuit court (when Kesler claimed she had \$25,000 in damages and that number exceeded what district court could handle) and back to district court when that claim was dismissed. A frustrated Judge Parrott noted the file on this case was more than three inches thick.

Judge Parrott said it was a simple breach of contract case and the only thing to decide was how much money Hirsch should be paid, because there was discussion about calculations before and after taxes. Hirsch had asked for \$16,667. Finally, the \$13,000 figure was set, which amounts to \$11,782 plus pre- and post-judgment interest.

Besides the scheduled July 16 session in Judge Parrott's courtroom asking for

a Receiver to be appointed to collect the judgment, Kesler faces an Aug. 9 hearing before the State Attorney Discipline Board.

The complaint by Hirsch lists alleged misconduct by Kesler and includes an incident where Circuit Court Judge Daphne Means Curtis sanctioned Kesler \$250 for filing a proposed order that was a deliberate misstatement of the court's prior ruling.

On Aug. 27, 2010, Kesler made out a Cash Connection money order for \$250 to Hirsch and his attorney David W. Williams and included "Fujb" written in the memo line, which Hirsch contends means "F*** you, Jewish bastard."

Kesler said it actually stood for "fee under judicial order b".

But Judge Curtis said Kesler's explanation "makes no sense at all because there was no order be and so forth. So, it may very well have been an anti-Semitic racial slur. But I'm not determining that today because I'm not sure..."

Judge Curtis said Hirsch has a right to file a grievance with the Attorney Grievance Commission, which he did.

In a deposition on Sept. 24, 2010, Kesler said the memo was written because the money order was taken out of her husband's account at Cash Connection and it would be returned to him. But, she agreed, those at Cash Connection would not know to charge that check to Szetela's account by reading the memo line.

When reached by phone on Tuesday, Kesler said she is appealing Judge Parrott's whole judgment because she had been denied her right to a jury trial, among other things. She emphasized that Judge Parrott no longer has jurisdiction because of her appeal of the case to Circuit Court.

Federal Grand Jury indictments come for 2 in VBT crime spree

After a rash of Home Invasions that took place within Denton Subdivision from November 2011 to the most recent on April 2012, Van Buren Township investigators assisted Federal Officials in obtaining gun charges in this crime spree.

VBT Police Captain Gregory Laurain issued a press release on Tuesday that reported after countless hours of surveillance and investigating tips, investigators put together five cases after the apprehension of persons of interest that S.I.U. (Special Investigative Officers) had been watching and believed to be involved in the break-ins.

These two individuals were charged on a local level with Receiving and Concealing Stolen Property and not with Home

Invasion.

S.I.U. has since been working the cases in conjunction with the Bureau of Alcohol Tobacco and Firearms and the U.S. Attorney's Office for the Eastern District of Michigan in Detroit and on June 26, 2012 Thomas Johnson and Sheldon Brummette were both indicted by a federal Grand Jury in the U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Michigan.

Johnson and Brummette were both charged with a violation of Title 18 U.S.C. Section 022(g) (1), 924(e) – Felon in Possession of a Firearm. The firearm in question was one of the firearms stolen from a residence on Old Michigan Ave. and is tied to the rash of home invasions in the Denton Subdivision.

S.I.U. served the Federal arrest warrants on Johnson and Brummette on July 2. Johnson was arrested at his parents' home in Canton and Brummette was arrested at his girlfriend's apartment in Superior Township.

Johnson missed his court date on July 5 because he was in the custody of the U.S. Marshall Service on the current Federal charge.

Johnson and Brummette had a detention hearing on Tuesday July 10, at 1 p.m.

Captain Laurain said is expected that Johnson and Brummette will both be detained as they have extensive criminal histories and they are both looking at 15 years in the Federal system.

Johnson no-show at 34th District Court because he's already in jail

By Rosemary K. Oztman
Independent Editor

Thomas Michael Johnson, 51, of Van Buren Township, was due to show up at 34th District Court on July 5 to face a new charge of receiving and concealing stolen property, but he was a no-show.

Judge David Parrott issued a bench warrant for Johnson's arrest.

Later, it was discovered that Johnson already was in federal custody, having been arrested for being in possession of

(continued on page 18)

O P I N I O N S

Editorial

Ode to Country Living: Crocodile in Sherwood Pond?

On Tuesday morning, a woman shared with her Bible Study group at the Community Center in Sumpter Township that she had seen a crocodile at Sherwood Pond in Banotai Park (Sherwood at Wear roads).

Mary Ban reported what her fellow study group member said to the Sumpter Township Board on Tuesday evening. She said the woman reported a three-foot crocodile crawled out of the lake and a man picked it up.

There were lots of questions: Is it still in the lake? "I don't know," Ban replied.

Why didn't the woman call the police? "She didn't think of it," Ban reported.

Nobody at the meeting could say for sure what the situation is at Banotai Park. There were lots of guesses.

Was it a pet someone got rid of after it grew too big? That happens sometimes. Was it real? A remote-control toy?

Police Lt. Eric Luke suggested it might be a cayman and the man probably brought it to the park with him. Lt. Luke didn't want to upset the public by saying there was something in the lake if there wasn't.

Police Chief Jim Pierce told Ban to tell her friend, "Next time, call the police."

Ban said there have been reports of coyotes for years and she's seen a large cat on her farmland, "probably a panther."

There are all kinds of wildlife in Sumpter Township, but could there be a crocodile?

EXTRA THINGS I KNOW

...By Rosemary K. Otzman

A man on Hull Road said coyotes got three of his cats and he has seen coyotes on his acreage for many years. He said three coyotes have been running together and they used to stand on rocks and watch him jog his horses.

Lately, something has been coming inside his barn and eating his horse feed and he thinks it may be coyotes.

A resident of Fret Road reports seeing a coyote heading to the woods on his property that is also part of the woods behind Country Ponds Estates, where the two little dogs were attacked.

A reader told us the story of a maimed seagull that was hobbling around in front of the Dollar Store in the Farmer Jack parking lot in Van Buren Township. The bird had a dislocated leg and a broken wing.

For three days, a man named Gordon, on break from his job at Southport, would come and feed the bird French fries and other food.

Our reader reports she was very taken with Gordon's kindness to the injured bird. But then, Mark Rosenthal of Animal Magic in Sumpter Township was called and he captured the bird and took it to a vet, who amputated the leg, and then to his exotic animal compound. The woman who called me said Mark did not ask for any money to cover the care for the bird.

The seagull was named "Eileen" and put on Mark's website as animal of the month, she said.

The website is iwantanimalmagic.com and is a wonderful place to visit. We are very fortunate to have Mark and his family in our community - and Gordon, too, who



cares about the suffering of a lowly bird. We also appreciate our caller who cared enough to report it all.

Mary Ann Bitner reports looking out her doorwall and seeing a double rainbow in the rain under a very gray sky at about 6:40 p.m., Tuesday, July 3. She ran to get her camera and just as suddenly as they came, poof, the rainbows were gone.

The rainbows seemed to be rising up out of the lake and over the condos on North Liberty Street in the City of Belleville. She said she's never before seen this effect of a rainbow coming out of the water.

She said she thought of us because the double rainbow is the *Independent's* logo.

Yes, on Dec. 3, 1994, when a group of investors met on Charles Street to officially start the *Independent*, there was a double rainbow in the sky and someone got a picture of it over Chesley Odom's place on Main Street. Chesley wasn't an investor, but he was a great supporter of our paper and was in the process of designing our masthead. He put the double rainbow in the design and the rest is history.

Thanks for reporting the sighting, Mary Ann. Maybe someone else got a picture.

In last Friday's edition of the *Adrian Daily Telegram*, there was a report on the finalists interviewed by the city administrator to fill the seat of retired Adrian Police Chief Terry Collins. Adrian Police Sgt. Vincent Emrick,

35, an 11-year veteran of the department, was selected July 2 for the position. The newspaper filed a Freedom of Information Act request to get the names of the three unsuccessful finalists for the job, who had been interviewed but whose names apparently hadn't been announced.

The three were: Carl McClanahan, Public Safety Director of Van Buren Township, Wayne County; Laurence Van Alstine, deputy police chief of Adrian; and David Archer, a sergeant with the Washtenaw County Sheriff's Department.

Chief Emrick will make \$70,000 a year. In 2011, McClanahan's regular salary was \$81,070.24 and with fringes totaled \$92,386.77. There were 30 candidates after the job was first posted April 29.

I talked to Belleville Police Chief Gene Taylor on Monday night to fill him in on what's happening around the area. He was out for tests Monday morning and said he plans on coming back to work.

He was hospitalized June 30, got out of the hospital July 3 and has been healing at home since then. We miss his smiling face around town, but ret.-Sgt. Bob Dawson is doing a great job filling in, once again. Sgt. Dawson has filled in as city police chief many times over the years.



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 BELLEVILLE - AREA
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 152 Main St., Suite 9, Belleville, MI 48111
 734-699-9020
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Editor: Rosemary K. Otzman
 Home: 697-8290

Advertising Manager: Bob Mytych
Sports Editor: Bob Mytych
Bookkeeper: James Otzman
Production Manager: James Otzman
Office Manager: Jackie Garner
Business Manager: Gerald McKelvey
Editorial Cartoonist: Bob Mytych

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Letters

Join other Patriots on Saturday at fairgrounds

To the Editor:

Listen Up, Americans! This Saturday, July 14, from 12 noon to 6 p.m., at the 4H Fairgrounds (Quirk Road) in Belleville, we will be afforded an unusual and welcome opportunity.

Sarah Palin will be the guest speaker at the Patriots in the Park in support of America's Wounded Warriors.

"Hope and change" said candidate Obama; "How's that working for you?" said Sarah Palin.

Obama said, if elected, he will be "Fundamentally changing America forever!"

We Americans can no longer remain complacent; we can no longer ignore the constant traitorous actions and threats eating away at our beloved America, our Constitution, Bill of Rights and all that which we hold dear and true.

As American citizens, together, let's stand up, cheer and shout "God Bless America."

Come and join hundreds of other Patriots as we celebrate Freedom and Liberty Saturday, July 14. It's time to take back America in 2012.

Thank you,
(Mrs.) Ruth E. Bleeker
Belleville

Forget 'Patriots in the Park', donate to veterans

To the Editor:

As a child from a family of veterans, I find it offensive that the Willow Run Tea Party has chosen to ally itself with divisive groups such as Americans for Prosperity for its upcoming "Patriots in the Park Event" this weekend.

Obviously we can all agree that we are grateful for the service of our veterans and that a fundraiser for the Fallen and Wounded Veterans Fund is a very good idea. Indeed, as Fund board member Lynn Phillips told AnnArbor.com, "it's really apolitical."

But groups such as Americans for Prosperity, which is helping financially and organizationally with the event, are anything but apolitical. This organization was started by oil giants Charles and David Koch, who according to Forbes are among the 20 richest individuals in the world. The "smoking gun" link to the Tea Party is that AFP's current president, Tim Phillips, helped to organize many of the Tea Party protests (after his career as a Republican political strategist, naturally).

Why does all of this matter? It matters because it seems sinister to me that an organization like AfP (started by those in the richest .0000003% worldwide) continues this not-so-secret alliance with the Tea Party.

Fellow citizens should refuse to attend an event funded and organized by some of the same incredibly wealthy people who swindled our families out of pensions, savings, retirements, and college funds in 2008. If you want to be a true patriot, donate directly to the Fallen and Wounded Soldiers Fund and forget about "Patriots in the Park."

The most unpatriotic thing would be to not rise up in criticizing the way that our political system is for sale, now more than ever. And it would be even more unpatriotic to let the ultra-rich behind groups such as Americans for Prosperity and the Tea Party trick us into their misguided goals: unchecked corporate greed, zero taxation of the rich, and a boom-bust economy that only benefit people like the Koch Brothers.

Stop believing the lies these people are feeding us, and demand a constitutional amendment to get private and corporate money out of our political system today.

Sincerely,
Alex Brown
Belleville High School Class of 2008

"Another good thing about being poor is that when you are seventy your children will not have you declared legally insane in order to gain control of your estate."

--Woody Allen



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Belleville Area Independent

More Letters

Re-elect Sharry Budd as VB Township Treasurer

To the Editor:

This letter is to support Sharry Budd's re-election as the treasurer of Van Buren Township.

As the former director of the Belleville Area Museum, I worked closely with Sharry for 15 years, and, during that time, I came to have great respect for her.

The museum is dear to Sharry's heart, as it is to mine, and she always did her utmost to support the museum's endeavors in both large and small ways.

Whenever I called Sharry and told her about a problem at the museum, from a flooded basement to a crashed computer, she would search for (and find) a solution. Those who worked closely with me at the museum know that I always referred to Sharry as our "guardian angel."

But my admiration for Sharry goes far beyond the museum. In her capacity as township treasurer, she is the ultimate professional. Her financial skills and experience run deep. During her many years as township treasurer, Sharry has, with great expertise, overseen and safeguarded its finances. While other communities struggle with deficit budgets, Van Buren Township is financially solvent, thanks in great part to Sharry's careful budget oversight and sensible recommendations to the township board regarding its financial circumstances.

In her position as township treasurer, Sharry is also a valuable member of several township commissions and an advocate for township employees. She treats township staff with fairness and respect, recognizing that they are on the front lines in providing services to residents, and seeks to provide them with a fair and effective working environment.

The Budd family has farmed in Van Buren Township since 1860. Sharry and her husband Bill have raised three sons here, and they continue the family farming tradition of operating their produce stand every summer and fall, famous for its sweet corn!

Sharry has deep roots here and truly cares about Van Buren Township. She does everything she can to ensure that its tax monies are managed well and that its residents receive quality services.

If you wish to have a person as township treasurer whom you can trust and, without a doubt, depend on, please give your vote to Sharry Budd.

Diane Wilson

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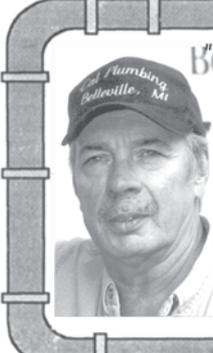
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Obituaries



John Joseph May

JOHN JOSEPH MAY

(April 9, 1941 - July 8, 2012)

John Joseph May, Jr., age 71, passed away at home, July 8, 2012. He was born April 9, 1941 in Detroit, Michigan, son of the late John and Stella (Tabian) May.

He was a member of St. Anthony Catholic Church in Belleville, Michigan, where he was an usher and enjoyed participating in the Men's Club. John liked gardening and enjoyed reading. He was happy hunting and grilling good food for his family. He was a devoted family man.

He is survived by his loving wife Stacie; a daughter Kelli (Michael) Dipietro of Matthews, NC, and one son, John (Angela) May III of Berkley, Michigan; also, three grandchildren: Elizabeth Batianis, Caroline Batianis and Madison May.

John was preceded in death by his mother Stella in 2004, and his father John May Sr. in 1987.

Visitation was held at David C. Brown Funeral Home on Wednesday, July 11, 2012 from 1-4 PM and 6-8 PM. Prayers will be 11:30 AM Thursday at the funeral home, processing to St. Anthony Catholic Church, Belleville, MI, for a 12:30 PM Funeral. Deacon Peter Cornell will officiate.

Memorial Contributions may be made to St. Joseph Mercy Hospice or St. Anthony Catholic Church and would be appreciated by the family.

Please sign John's on-line guest book and share a memory for his family to treasure at davidcbrownfh.com.

DONALD JAMES DUFF

(July 24, 1937 - July 2, 2012)

Age 74, of Taylor. Survived by five natural children Donald, Gerald, Jamie, Debra, and Kim. Also many step-children Amber, Sherry, Laurie, Tony, Rhonda and Donna. Services were July 6 at David C. Brown Funeral Home.



Barbara E. Moody

BARBARA ELLEN MOODY

(May 9, 1953 - July 5, 2012)

Mrs. Barbara Ellen Moody passed away Thursday, July 5, 2012 at her home in Sumpter Township. She was born May 9, 1953 in Logan, West Virginia, a daughter of Hassell and Sarah Marie (Kidd) Lester.

On July 11, 1988 she was married to Craig B. Moody in Toledo, Ohio. They have resided in Sumpter Township for the past 24 years. Mrs. Moody was a longtime member and supporter of the Sumpter Twp. Parks and Recreation. She enjoyed gardening and horror movies. Her greatest pride and reward was her family, especially being a mom and grandma.

Mrs. Moody is survived by her loving husband of nearly 24 years Craig B. Moody. Dear mother of James Berrett of Sumpter, Teresa (Mike) LaPorte of Willis, April Tucker of Sumpter and Tiffany (James Thomas) Moody of Willis. Fond grandmother of Brittany, Megan & Kaylie LaPorte, Austin, Samantha & Aaron Bridges and Haidyn & Chase Thomas. Sister of Vi, Kathi and Delorise. Preceded in death by her parents and brother Hassell Lester, Jr.

Funeral services were held Monday, July 9, 2012 at 11:00 A.M. at the Higgeson & Neal Funeral Home, 209 Main St., Belleville (734-697-9400). Visitation was held Sunday, July 8, 2012 from 1-6 P.M. at the funeral home. Burial followed the services at Union-Udell Cemetery, Ypsilanti. The family has suggested memorial contributions to the Friends of Michigan Animal Rescue, P.O. Box 854, Belleville, MI 48112. www.hnfhome.com

JOSEPH CHARLES MIENTKIEWICZ

(September 24, 1962 - July 1, 2012)

Age 49, of Eaton Rapids, MI, formerly of Belleville. Survived by wife Beverly Jane, 3 children Dustin, Dallas Lee, Denise Amber; 3 grandchildren; father Walter Joseph; sister Susan, brother David. Brown Funeral Home.



Sally Ann Kaczmar

SALLY ANN KACZMAR

(October 12, 1945 - July 4, 2012)

Sally Ann Kaczmar went home to be with her Lord on Wednesday, July 4, 2012, surrounded by her loving family and her beloved Collies. She was born on October 12, 1945 in Detroit, Michigan, daughter of the late Joseph and Mary (Zakar) Balint.

She married her High School sweetheart James Kaczmar on May 14, 1966. Together they had three loving children: Lisa Woods of Murfreesboro, TN., Joseph (Karol) Kaczmar of Mattawan, and Susann Kaczmar of Belleville. Also, survived by four grandchildren James and Julie Woods and Benjamin and Andrew Kaczmar.

Sally had a lifelong love for the Collie Breed and rescued many throughout her life. She also enjoyed gardening and was faithfully devoted to her family.

The family received guests on Saturday, July 7, 2012 from 1-4 PM with a 4 PM service at the David C. Brown Funeral Home, Belleville, with Deacon Pete Cornell officiating. Cremation rites were accorded.

Donations in her memory can be made to Karmanos Hospice or Tri-County Collie Rescue of Michigan <http://collierescue.com/>.

Please sign Sally's on line guestbook and share a memory for her family to cherish at www.davidcbrownfh.com.



Clyde E. Laine, Jr.

CLYDE E. LAINE, JR.

(May 25, 1948 - June 25, 2012)

Clyde E. Laine, Jr., 87, passed away on July 1, 2012. Clyde was born to Clyde E. Laine, Sr. and Narcissa (Clark) on October 1, 1924. A Real Estate broker for over 40 years, he enjoyed going to the VFW 956, Moose Lodge, golfing and visiting with friends.

Clyde was preceded in death by his wife Juanita; both parents; brothers Charles, Tom and David; and sisters Pat and Billie. He is survived by daughters Bonnie (Jerome) Prince of Huntsville, AL, Jackie (Robert) Wilson of Germantown, TN, and Deborah Clyde Stopera of Belleville; six grandchildren and 12 great-grandchildren.

Friends called at the Crane Funeral Home, 36885 Goddard Road, Romulus, MI 48174 (734) 941-9200, on Thursday, July 5, 2012. A service took place at 10 a.m. on Friday, July 6, officiated by nephews Allen Potts, Warren Potts and son-in-law Jerome Prince. Those who wish to light a memory candle, share condolences or a picture may visit www.cranefuneralhome.net.

In Memory of RICHARD JOHN RYAN, SR.

(May 9, 1937 - October 29, 2011)

Family and friends are welcome to attend a Celebration of Life, Sunday, July 22, 2012 at 2 p.m. at 7255 Tuttle Hill Rd., Ypsilanti, MI 48197.

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More Letters

VBT Supervisor replies to Lou Kovach's ads

A Letter to VBT Residents:

An ad was published in the July 5th edition of the *Independent* and *Current* newspapers signed by Lou Kovach. The ad contains many inaccuracies that need to be set straight.

Clearly, the motivation behind the ad is Mr. Kovach's personal disappointment regarding certain land splits he requested and was denied, along with the decision for the construction of the Bemis Road water line extension.

The decision of the Township to deny the requested land split and the decision to move ahead and construct the water line extension were done with the best interests to the Township residents in mind, not the personal self-serving interests of one individual.

Concerning the land splits, Mr. Kovach has not followed the necessary appeal process for land splits, and has not taken his request to the BOARD OF ZONING APPEALS. He was denied the land split by the Van Buren Township Parcel Division Board on May 8, 2012, under the General Code, Chapter 78-Subdivisions, Article III- Land Divisions, and the split also would not be in compliance with the Michigan Land Division Act (LDA) Public Act 591 of 1996, MCL 560.101.

The Bemis Road water extension is necessary to have redundancy for the entire area serviced by the line. The extension will tie in with the Martinsville Road water line, and allow better service and better firefighting capabilities with additional fire hydrants and when water line maintenance is necessary, will allow fewer homes to be affected by service shutoff.

This will create a looped water main system and eliminate the dead ends which currently exist at these locations. This will help to maintain system pressure, improve fire hydrant flows, provide redundancy to reduce service interruptions and ensure water quality in this area of the Township.

This is just better water service for our residents. The cost of the Bemis Road portion of the water main project is approximately \$289,490, not the "over a half million dollars" Mr. Kovach stated in his advertisement.

Mr. Kovach wanted to negotiate the water line easement for the lot split he wanted (which does not comply with the Land Division Act), but these are two different issues.

Wayne County allowed Van Buren Township to move the water line closer to Bemis Road, therefore the water line easement issue was addressed and it was no longer necessary to have an easement to enter the properties of the residents who did not voluntarily grant an easement permission for the water line.

During this term of office, the Staff at VBT has been constantly reminded to

adhere to ALL State, County, Local and VBT laws, rules, regulations, building codes and ordinances. ALL residents are treated EQUALLY, regardless of financial or social status. This has and will continue to be "Order of Business" in our township hall as long as Paul White is the Supervisor.

Every morning when I leave home at 6:30 a.m. for work, my wife Sue always says to me, "Remember, Honesty and Kindness Today". I will not let my wife nor the valuable residents of Van Buren Township down in this respect.

Van Buren Township Supervisor
Paul D. White

Help choose 'Belle-itzer' Prize for Fiction

To the Editor:

You've probably heard of the Pulitzer Prize for Fiction that is awarded each year to one novel written by an American author.

This year, the Pulitzer Committee chose not to give the award. To break the stalemate (at least in our little corner of the country) we are holding our own prize -- the "Belle-itzer" Prize -- and you're invited to be on the jury!

Read the Pulitzer finalists, make your decision, and fill out a voting card for your choice. Votes will now be accepted through Aug. 31. All voters will be entered in a raffle to win a Caffeine-Lovers Gift Basket. One vote per person, please.

Nominees are Train Dreams by Denis Johnson; Swamplandia! by Karen Russell; and The Pale King by David Foster Wallace. Contact the Belleville Area District Library for more information!

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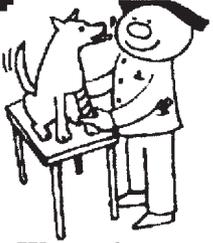
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PET SPA, 5260 Willis Rd., YPSILANTI, Sun., July 22nd, 4:30-6 p.m.

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Guest Editorial:

Maybe you can learn from my experience

This is a story I would like to share with our readers. It's to inform everyone about the dangers of this summer's horrible heat wave.

On Sunday, June 24, around 9 a.m., I thought I could get some mowing done early when it was cooler. I planned to just work until about noon or so and quit before the horrible heat came that was forecast.

I had with me what I thought was plenty of liquids, about 40 ounces of water. I mowed, took some short breaks, and continued mowing.

I've done this hundreds of times before with no problems until that day. I started to get a little dizzy, so I sat down and took a break and drank some water. When I got up again, I got dizzy again, so dizzy, and then my vision started to go. It was like seeing static on a T.V. screen, white with black dots. I felt like I was going to pass out and so I sat down fast.

My vision came back but I was still a little

dizzy. I decided to go back to the house to cool down, thinking I was suffering from heat exhaustion. I got up, walked 20 feet, again, same thing happened with my vision and I had to sit down again.

I knew I had to get out of the sun, so I started crawling to the house on my hands and knees, about 100 feet, until I made it into the house. My brother saw me and offered to help, but being stubborn, refused. Instead, I asked him to bring in the machinery.

The rest of the afternoon was very foggy to me and couldn't think straight. My Mom asked several times if I wanted to go to the hospital, and again, being stubborn, I refused. It got to be around 11 p.m. when I took my Mom up on her offer and she rushed me to St. Joseph Mercy Hospital's emergency room.

I still was foggy when I got there and they ran their tests. It turns out I was suffering from acute kidney failure and dehydration. Some of the complications that led to this condition was I didn't eat for 4 days before this happened because of stomach upset. And, I was taking prescription medication with warnings to stay away from excessive

heat and sunlight.

In the emergency room, a doctor surgically implanted a tube into my jugular vein (in the neck) and forced IV fluids, hoping to kick-start my kidneys back into operation. It wasn't working.

I was admitted into ICU and stayed for three days while they worked on getting my kidneys working again, which they finally did. God bless them, my Mom and my Brother took turns staying with me so I wouldn't be alone, I'm so happy they did that. It wasn't a pleasant stay.

This story is to inform you of what this summer heat can do to you. Follow your medications warnings and precautions. Drink plenty of water. If you start to feel dizzy or sick, stop what you're doing, go inside and rest. If I would have stopped after the first time I started to feel dizzy, I might have avoided the whole hospital stay.

I do want to thank everyone who said prayers, sent me cards, visited and called me. I really appreciate it. I would also like to give a big thanks to Jerry Leisure of Journal Register Newspapers who filled in for me here at the Belleville Independent that week. If it wasn't for him, there wouldn't have been a June 28 issue.

James Otzman
Van Buren Township

because both parties are facing hard times.

I love this community and hate to see the bitterness that still is out there from whatever happened when the last group was removed. I think it is important to make up and get together. I can't define the good ones and the bad ones so I am back to thinking things over.

What was it Ronald Reagan said? Are you better off today than you were four years ago?

Our community is doing well when you post it against any communities of our size or larger. We have excellent police and fire departments, our recreation is absolutely the best, the high school is being rebuilt, our seniors are very well taken care of, our library is on the way to do very well, our museum is excellent and our Arts community is making it.

I wouldn't trade our neighboring communities of Van Buren Township for any other towns or cities. We have excellent relations with Belleville and Sumpter; they are family.

I think we would do well to reelect most people on the board, and dump those who cannot be civil and let them finish their jobs. We live in an awesome community, so go out and vote.

Sincerely,
Van Buren Resident for 70 years
Marilyn Montgomery

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More Letters

VBT is awesome community; get out, vote

To the Editor:

I am writing this letter because this is such an important year to our Township and our country. It seems that people are being bombarded by so many things, not necessarily true, nor false, just trying to create a question in our minds.

I don't know who Republicans are and who Democrats are. I don't think it matters

In support of Linda Combs for Supervisor

To the Editor:

This letter is in support of Linda Combs who is running for Van Buren Township Supervisor. I have known her for nearly 15 years. She is a very caring person, considerate of everyone, willing to help, going out of her way to see their needs are taken care of and their problems are solved best of her capabilities.

If she can't help, she will direct them to a solution source. She is trustworthy and I know she would serve our community with dedication and treat our residents fairly. Thank you, Ruth Draper, Van Buren resident



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**Join me in new group:
'say no to BADL'**

To the Community:

I wish all of you to help join me regardless of your opinion, on Facebook, in a new group I have started, "say no to BADL". This is a group and a forum for the tri-community voters and taxpayers, to voice their opinions on the proposed "new" library, the BADL council and any matters surrounding the facts and proposed bonds and millage increases.

Thank you,
Bob Balderston
Belleville
Editor's Note: BADL stands for Belleville Area District Library.



Belleville raises city water/sewer rates by 5% total as of July 1

By Rosemary K. Otzman
Independent Editor

An overall total 5% utility rate was approved by the Belleville City Council during its regular meeting July 2, with Mayor Kerreen Conley abstaining.

Mayor Conley asked to abstain because the sewer rates are in her department at Wayne County. She said the cost for sewer treatment has gone up because flow has gone down.

The new charge went into effect July 1.

A chart, presented to the council, shows that for 2012-13, the water rate will go up to \$6.74, from the previous \$6.19. The Detroit increase was 9%.

The sewer rate went up from \$6.34 to \$6.38, following a 1% increase from the county.

The chart showed a total utility rate of \$13.12, up from \$12.53, for a 5% increase.

Councilman Brian Blackburn told the audience in the city council chambers that the city is "just passing it through," referring to increases from the City of Detroit on the water and Wayne County on the sewage treatment.

Former councilman, George Chedraue, said from the audience that Detroit is raising its water rates just 7%.

Mayor Conley said the city has not received anything from Detroit saying the increase is less than 9%. That's the amount the city has in writing from Detroit.

"I talked to the city [Detroit] and they said they haven't decided," Chedraue said, adding, "in the last five years water has increased 50%."

"In the last few years, Detroit rates have risen significantly," said Mayor Conley.

Resident Mike Renaud said from the audience that the city has moved a lot of costs out of the general fund to take some costs out of the water and sewer budgets.

He said Main Street was redone, with new infrastructure, and "Keith's and Diana's time hadn't gone done at all," despite the new water and sewer pipes.

He referred to City Manager Diana Kollmeyer and DPS Director Keith Boc.

City Manager Kollmeyer said that there is a lot of infrastructure besides the one Main Street water line.

"There are always going to be employee-associated costs," Kollmeyer said, adding the system is supposed to pay its own way.

Chedraue said 50% of Boc's salary is from the water department budget. He said he knows it's hard to keep track, but, "Keith doesn't spend half of his time on the water department.

"Instead of lowering something else, you just shift [the cost] to the water department and we're stuck with it," Chedraue said.

"... You keep pushing Keith's and Diana's pay to the water department ... At what time will Keith and Diana be 100% funded by the water department? ... When only doing 5% of the work?" Chedraue asked.

Mayor Conley said until anyone walks in either one of their shoes to see what they do, they should not criticize them.

She said the city is trying to track and record times spent on projects by employees so next year at budget time they'll have a baseline.

"There is an element of time spent," Conley said. "Next year we'll have a good idea" of how much is spent where.

In other business at the July 2 meeting, the council:

- Heard a glowing report on the Cruisin' on the Bayou Car Show, held each Monday afternoon

on Main Street. There were 104 cars on June 4, a rainout June 11, 92 cars on June 18, a possible 210 cars by 8 p.m. on June 25, and 138 by meeting time on July 2. There was discussion about expanding the area used for parking as the show grows. Also, local restaurants will be asked to set up steam tables with simple hot dogs and hamburgers for the crowd. The car show promoters were praised for bringing so many new people into Belleville. "I think you've done a great job. Thank you," Mayor Conley said on behalf of the council;

- Approved Pamela Dalton's request to solicit donations at Five Points (and possibly Main/High) for the "Walk to End Alzheimer's" annual fund raiser from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. on Aug. 18 and 19. As a Team Captain of the Alzheimer's Association main fund-raising event, her team has donated over \$56,000 to the association over the past 12 years;

- Opened three sealed bids for the Newspaper of Record service for the City of Belleville and referred them to the administration for a recommendation at the next meeting. Bids were \$19.95 per column from Heritage Newspapers, \$5 per column inch from the *Belleville-Area Independent*, and \$3.99 per column inch for the *Belleville Lake Current*;

- After a lengthy discussion, approved letting

the Fire Department apply for Assistance to Firefighters Grants through the Federal Emergency Management Agency, which were due to be turned in on July 6, after being reviewed by the city manager. The grants were broken into three motions: 16, 800 MHz radios (cost about \$37,500) with a 20% match by the city; 11 sets of turnout gear (at about \$2,000 each) with 10% match by the city; and fire truck not to exceed \$275,000 total, with a 5% match by the city. It is hoped that 24-year-old Engine 451 can be sold to make enough for the city's fire engine match. Councilman Blackburn, a paid-per-call fire fighter, abstained from the votes. Mayor Conley and other council members agreed they would have liked to see a draft of the application and more details, since they felt they were put in an awkward position without the ability to review the grant applications before they had to be submitted. Fire Chief Brian Loranger apologized, saying this was the first time he did anything like this application;

- Approved amending the 2012-13 budget to include an outlay from the last budget year to use \$3,250 to "repurpose" the Humvee for the fire department to use as a brush truck. (The cost includes painting it red, since Chief Loranger said in its present camouflage paint,

he might lose it in the brush.) Chief Loranger said Van Buren Township had a brush fire earlier that afternoon and called Belleville for mutual aid. Belleville couldn't get its old brush truck started, so the city couldn't help. Councilman Blackburn did not abstain from the vote, saying he would not personally benefit from this project;

- Also amended the 2012-13 budget to include \$9,500 for the addition of a retired police officer to the city's insurance coverage effective July 1, for a single policy with no employee contribution. The two amendments decrease the General Fund fund balance by \$12,750, with an expected fund balance of \$422,044 on June 30, 2013;

- Heard City Manager Kollmeyer note that the skate park has been in the city's possession for 10 years now and she will come back to the council with a recommendation. She said she has been getting calls from people in the community who want the skate park to stay; and

- Approved \$118,284.95 in accounts payable and the following departmental purchases in excess of \$500: to John Deere Landscapes, \$675 for an irrigation pump at Doane's Landing (DDA); and to R. Dixon Lawn Service, \$570 for grass cutting of empty lots.



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More Letters

Former teacher says VBPS staff dispirited

To the Editor:
 I am a former teacher in the Van Buren School District; I worked in the system as a substitute, a coach, Adult Education Teacher, Community Education Teacher, Tech Leader, Principal Designee, classroom teacher, Physical Education Teacher and a Media Specialist.

I had 33 wonderful years with many pleasing memories and many wonderful acquaintances and friends starting with substitute teaching in 1977.

In this economy, I know the Van Buren School System faces many hard challenges and difficult decisions. Myself and many other retiring and retired Van Buren employees believe that the Board of Education members are either unaware of, or are deliberately choosing to ignore, tactics being used to achieve results.

While we appreciate Mr. Van Tassel's interest in observing teachers in the practice of their art, it is shallow and biased to judge a teacher's entire career based on five or even ten quick glimpses of classroom management and instruction. This practice has been described as "fly-specking", where certain specific events or interactions of a very brief nature are used to determine overall teaching effectiveness.

There is not a follow-up conference with the teacher to achieve understanding by asking for clarification of why they handled the situation the way they did. As was written about a teacher; the perception was and evaluation written that the teacher was picking on a student. Same situation as relayed by the teacher: The student has a difficult time in school and the teacher has learned by asking a student near the child a question and then calling on this student using the same question usually the correct answer and success for the child.

The teacher had to practice this procedure a few times before success was achieved. Because there was not a private meeting with the teacher to ask to explain or talk about this situation, the perception was totally off.

Because of the "fly-specking" and no conference with the teacher during the past two weeks, many fine teachers have been informed that they are ineffective or

minimally effective. In many instances, the supervising principal may not agree with the evaluation, yet they have been instructed to rate the teachers in this way by the Superintendent.

By law, the administration must provide teachers who have been rated ineffective additional training and the opportunity to improve.

It has surfaced that multiple principals and teachers have recently been suspended without pay. The frequency and reasons for these suspensions raise some alarm. Some of these disciplinary actions were prompted by extremely minor infractions of procedure. I have found when a person asks for clarification it is always best to answer the question never issuing time off and suspension without pay.

We understand administering correction is completely at the discretion of the Superintendent; however we question the severity and regularity.

Fear and intimidation is not promoted as a tool in any recognized theory of leadership. The elimination of coercion and emphasis on effective communication are the commonly recognized goals of successful leadership. The fear and intimidation in the buildings is pervasive. It is obvious that this creates an atmosphere of "duck and cover" and "fight or flight". These emotional responses are the result of a powerful totalitarian administration.

These reactions block creative thought and successful problem solving. The Superintendent was specifically asked during the interview process how he would get the changes he wanted without using fear and intimidation. His recent actions have given the clear answer.

Negotiations conducted with the VBEA have been filled with the same tactics and malice. The instructional staff has been targeted as the agent with which to balance the budget. The past practices that have caused the deficit have been neglected.

Indeed, it has been reported that many expenditures continue to be granted for new programs and incidental items, even though the agreement with the teachers was that there be no new initiatives begun that cost money. It appears the Superintendent has been granted discriminatory power to use funds as he wishes and subsequently take the teachers' salaries and benefits to balance the budget. I believe that there are creative ways to balance the budget that would not exclusively include salaries and

(continued on page 14)

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- 2 Pancakes & Sausage or Bacon....\$2.85
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Minding Your Business with Bob Mytych



The local **Mr. Pizza** businesses in the area -- Rawsonville Road, Haggerty, Ecorse, and Washtenaw -- will be holding a fundraiser on July 24 to benefit the family of **Matthew and Shannan Young**, and their one-year old daughter **Danica** of Milan, who lost everything in a house fire on July 1. A portion of the proceeds on that day will be donated.

The **Thunder over Michigan Air Show** at Willow Run Airport isn't until August, but that didn't stop the FA/2 Sea Harrier from making a media visit after buzzing the skies of Belleville for a few minutes

last Monday afternoon. The Harrier is the only privately owned jet of its kind in the world and will be performing Aug. 4-5. For tickets visit www.yankeearmuseum.org.

Dr. Andrea Joy Connors and Bellecare Medical Clinic has moved from Main Street to **25 Owen Street** at Sumpter Road. Dr. Connors, DNP-C, provides many services to women, men, and seniors and accepts most insurance, including Medicare and Medicaid. Physical and massage therapy, and an in-house pharmacy are also coming soon. Walk-ins are welcome and appointments can be made by calling **(734) 699-5400**. An official grand opening is scheduled for July 30, when a mobile mammogram unit will be on-site.

The **Belleville Community Band** will

take to the stage tomorrow evening (July 13) at 7 p.m. at the **Van Buren Park Band Shell**. The concert is free but vehicle entry permit is required at \$4 per car. If a rainout occurs, the concert will be moved to the Van Buren Township Community Center. Call **(734) 699-8921**

Sumpter Township's **Family Fun Day** is coming up **July 21**, 12 noon at **Graham Park** on Sumpter and Wear Roads. The free event is open to the community and will feature family fun activities, such as children's games and prizes, horse shoes, Tug O' War, and a softball game with the Sumpter/Belleville police and firemen. The annual event is sponsored by Sumpter Township Parks & Recreation. Call **(734) 461-6201**.

Justin Forster named to dean's list at Spring Arbor

Justin Forster of Belleville, a senior majoring in Accounting CPA, has been named to the Spring Academic Honors List at Spring Arbor University. He is the son of Scott and Suzanne Forster.

Brandon Rice graduates from Emory University

Brandon Rice of Belleville, received a Master of Public Health degree from the Rollins School of Public Health of Emory University in Atlanta, GA, at its 167th commencement ceremony May 14.

Pet of the Week

Friends of Michigan Animals Rescue
"RASTA"



Ready, Set, Go...that's **Rasta's** motto in life! Like a launched rocket, this high-energy, delightful 1 year old Miniature Poodle mix will blast his way into your life with tons of fuel and raring to go. Keeping this little guy active will be key but should be easy since he loves walks, rides, playtime and just about any other on the go activity you want to take him for. **Rasta** is also as social as they come and absolutely loves people and most other dogs as far as we have seen. Being as social as he is, **Rasta** can get a bit talkative at times if he thinks he's being ignored or left out of the fun. He's definitely not a dog you want to leave alone too much if you value his happiness and well-being. **Rasta's** looks are very versatile depending how you want him groomed. He can wear his white coat longer with tight curls that leave his coal black eyes and button nose peeking out. Alternately, he can be shaved down into a more traditional poodle look with a short fuzzy body and longer curls left for the ears and tail. Either way he's simply adorable! Don't miss meeting this super catch of a pup, call today to meet **Rasta**. He's neutered, vaccinated, micro-chipped and more than ready to start his life in a new fur-ever home.
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Re-Elect
John W. Morgan
 Sumpter Township
 Treasurer

VOTE
AUGUST 7

- Elect -
Johnny Vawters' Team
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DEMOCRATS!

Johnny Vawters, Supervisor
Clarence J. Hoffman, Jr., Clerk
John W. Morgan, Treasurer
Alan D. Bates, Trustee
Bill Hamm, Trustee
Peggy Morgan, Trustee
Don Swinson, Trustee

VOTE
AUGUST 7

- Proud United States Army Veteran
- Endorsed by Sumpter Township Democratic Caucus Club
- Member of Wayne County Treasurers Association
- Member of Michigan Municipal Treasurers Association
- Member of Belleville Area Council of the Arts
- Treasurer of Sumpter Progressive Civic League
- Member of Michigan Assoc. of Retired School Personnel
- Member of Sharon SDA Church

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Diane Madigan for Van Buren Township Trustee



My Goals as Trustee are:

- ◆ To support businesses that will better serve the community both now and in the future.
- ◆ As an animal advocate, to represent you in preserving your rights to responsible animal ownership.
- ◆ As an independent thinker, to thoroughly and thoughtfully research every topic brought before the Board of Trustees.
- ◆ To support the hiring of additional patrol police officers and fire fighters to obtain a 2010 level of service.
- ◆ To insist on accountability and responsibility in providing services.
- ◆ To remain a source of support and information to the residents.
- ◆ To put the SERVICE back into Public Service.

Any questions, comments or wishes of support: please contact me at DianeMadiganVBT@aol.com or 734-699-9207.

Paid for by CTE Diane Madigan
 16163 Bak • Belleville, Michigan 48111

VOTE August 7th

Sumpter Township Public Notice

Seeking bids for split rail fence

Sumpter Township Clerk's Office 23480 Sumpter Rd., Belleville, MI 48111 is now seeking sealed bids to install 520 linear feet of split rail fence at Banotai Park, corner of Sherwood & Wear Road, Belleville, MI 48111. Bid specifications are available at the Clerk's office. Bids must be received by Wednesday July 18, 2012 at 1:30 pm. Bids shall be opened on July 18, 2012 at 2:00 pm.

Clarence J. Hoffman Jr.
Clerk, Sumpter Township

Publish: July 12, 2012

Charter Township of Van Buren Public Notice

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF VAN BUREN REGULAR BOARD

MEETING MINUTES - JULY 3, 2012

Supervisor White called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. in the Board Room. Present: Supervisor White, Clerk Wright, Treasurer Budd, Trustee Hart, Trustee Jahr, Trustee Ostrowski and Trustee Partridge. Absent: None. Others in attendance: Parks and Recreation Director Wright, Public Safety Director McClanahan, Planning and Economic Development Services Director Carroll, DPW Director MacDonald, Parks and Recreation Deputy Director Burns, Secretary Cline and an audience of twenty-five (25).

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: Partridge moved, Jahr seconded to approve the agenda as presented. Carried.

APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA: Jahr moved, Budd seconded to approve the Consent Agenda [Work Study Session Minutes June 4, 2012; Regular Board Meeting Minutes June 5, 2012; Special Work Session Minutes July 19, 2012; Closed Session Minutes July 19, 2012; Approval of the Fiscal Year 2013 Suburban Mobility Authority for Regional Transportation (SMART) Municipal Credit Contract.] as presented. Carried.

PUBLIC HEARING: None.

CORRESPONDENCE: None.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: None.

NEW BUSINESS: Budd moved, Wright seconded to approve the agreement between Van Buren Charter Township and Wayne County for the use of a \$40,000 grant from the Wayne County Parks Millage for the construction of a new walking/bike path and permanent picnic areas at Van Buren Park. Carried.

VOUCHER LIST: Wright moved, Partridge seconded to approve the June 19, 2012 voucher list. Carried.

REPORTS: Supervisor White ordered the May 2012 Budgetary Report received and filed.

ANNOUNCEMENTS: Clerk Wright announced the following: The Township administrative offices will be closed on Wednesday July 4th in observance of Independence Day. Notice of close of registration is Monday, July 9, 2012. This is the last day to register to vote or change your address for the Primary Election to be held on Tuesday, August 7th. Once again this year, I wanted to thank Bob and Marie Krouse on behalf of the Township Board of Trustees for placing American flags on veteran's graves at the township cemeteries. They are to be commended for their work by helping to honor our veteran's. Lastly, Van Buren Township and Recall Corporation will host a free "Shred Day" on Saturday, August 25th from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Residents may drop off at the township front parking lot a maximum of five cartons or

medium size bags of documents per vehicle to be shredded. No three ring binders or metal of any kind please. A list of acceptable documents is posted at Van Buren website www.vanburen-mi.org and cable channel 12.

Director Wright announced the following: July is National Parks and Recreation month and in honor of this a Park Pursuit Scavenger Hunt is being held. Participants may pick up their packs in the Recreation Department and a celebration party will be held on July 31st at Quirk Park. A Detroit Tigers ballgame trip on August 31st the cost is \$35 per person which includes the ticket and transportation. Also, all Van Buren Parks will be open on July 4th. For more information contact the Recreation Department at 734-699-8921.

A representative from the Willow Run Tea Party announced Americans for Prosperity will hold Patriots in the Park Day at Wayne County Fairgrounds on July 14th from 12:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.

Diane Madigan announced the Public Safety Committee will hold a Public Safety Department mid-year budget review meeting at Fire Station One located at Sumpter and Hull Roads on July 18th at 5:30 p.m. Also, on August 1st at 5:30 p.m. in the Township Board room there will be a presentation on emergency sirens. Ms. Madigan inquired about new Fire Chief and who is the Interim Fire Chief. Supervisor White stated there will be a selection process by the Board of Trustees for the new Fire Chief and Dan Besson is the temporary Interim Fire Chief.

AUDIENCE (Non-Agenda Items): Comments were made from 8:01 p.m. to 8:42 p.m. by the Board and audience regarding the following topics: Visteon Bonds; Visteon bankruptcy; Local Development Finance Authority (LDFA); firework permit fees; Building Department, Township attorney; Michigan Municipal Risk Management Authority (MMRMA); economic downturn and negotiations with Visteon for Bond money shortfall; East Huron River Drive land problems causing flooding after grade was changed and request for a written report on this issue; Planning and Building Department; LDFA board; Visteon Co-Generation project; safety concerns at fireworks tents; fireworks ordinance(s); directory assistance telephone number for Van Buren Township; township plan for excess heat warning, severe weather and township as cooling center; citizens/residents concerns; FEMA floodplain status and FEMA map elevation corrections.

CLOSED SESSION: None.

ADJOURNMENT: Jahr moved, Wright seconded to adjourn at 8:43 p.m. Carried.

Respectfully submitted,
Leon Wright, Township Clerk
Paul D. White, Township Supervisor
Publish: July 12, 2012

VBT Police report armed robbery, felonious assault

By Rosemary K. Otzman
Independent Editor

At 9:25 p.m. July 4, Van Buren Township Police received a call reporting an armed robbery in the parking lot of 10990 Lighthouse.

Police Lt. Dennis Brooks reported that two black males, one armed with a handgun, robbed a male resident of his wallet. Both suspects then fled northeast through the carports.

A K-9 from Canton was called, but located nothing. The case is under investigation, Lt. Brooks said.

On July 2 at 9:56 a.m., police received a call of a felonious assault.

Lt. Brooks said the call involved two adult males with a disagreement that started over a driving incident at Belleville and Ecorse roads.

Subject One stated that he was cut off when he went through the light, which caused him to brake hard to avoid an

accident.

At Ecorse and Haggerty roads, Subject Two exited his vehicle and began to hit Subject One's window. Subject One said he feared the window was going to break and he "feared for his life". He pulled out a small pocket knife to protect himself.

Subject Two then began to punch at Subject One through the window and in the process was cut with the knife, Lt. Brooks reported.

Both subjects admitted fault and decided not to press charges. Case closed.

Findlay, Ohio police arrest Belleville man

Findlay, Ohio police arrested Robert Joseph Reese of Belleville after they say he discharged several rounds of ammunition inside the Imperial Marathon station on Main Street in Findlay on Monday.

According to police, the clerk was inside the business when a male with a mask on and holding a gun demanded cash and cigarettes. The clerk complied but several rounds were fired inside the store. No one was injured and police nabbed the suspect as he tried to escape out the front of the store.

The gun was recovered and Reese is now in the Hancock County Justice Center charged with aggravated robbery.

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Charter Township of Van Buren Public Notice

JULY BOARD OF REVIEW
CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF VAN BUREN

NOTICE TO THE TAXPAYERS AND PROPERTY OWNERS
OF VAN BUREN CHARTER TOWNSHIP

The BOARD OF REVIEW of the Charter Township of Van Buren will meet at the Township Hall, 46425 Tyler Road on Tuesday, July 17, 2012 at 3:00 p.m.

The purpose of this meeting will be:

- 1) to correct clerical errors or mutual mistakes of fact;
- 2) Homestead exemption status; and
- 3) Poverty exemptions.

Any property owner who believes they qualify should call Van Buren Township Assessing Department at 734.699.8946 prior to July 6, 2012.

Leon Wright, Van Buren Charter Township

Publish: July 5, 2012; July 12, 2012

More Letters

(continued from page 11)

benefits. If cuts in salaries and benefits are to be, they should be the same percentage from the top to down; equal sacrifice.

The environment of mutual trust and fair play has been shattered. The term "bully" is commonly used in describing the actions of the Superintendent. We propose that the Superintendent adhere to the answers he gave during his interview and work collaboratively with Principals and staff, rather than employing damaging and demoralizing methods to achieve goals.

We propose that the board use its authority to establish fair and considerate treatment of the staff and administrators. We propose that negotiations be re-opened and spread the deficit over a period of years, as allowed by law. We urge the board to take a more "hands-on approach" to the discretionary decisions of the Superintendent.

Although Mr. Van Tassel has done many fine things for the schools and community, I personally enjoyed the band performances especially the Halloween Concerts. The time and effort, heart and soul that he put into the students was amazing with wonderful results. I, at the same time, was deeply disturbed on several occasions by Mr. Van Tassel treatment of the students.

I personally heard him and observed him, along with other teachers I was walking with, belittling the band students for 45 minutes on several occasions while we walked around the high school track. I was usually stopped in disbelief on what I was hearing; negative, demeaning, disparaging words were being used to intimidate student to improve the performance on the marching field. These occasions could be considered "fly-specking" I told myself; however, I wondered when he was hired as Superintendent what would happen.

I have witnessed leaders who while addressing severe infractions of a person kept the person's self-esteem whole even empowering the person to want to work hard to be excellent. There are those who tear down leaving fear and intimidation in people and buildings blocking creative thought and successful problem solving. The situation in Van Buren right now is the rules seem to be changing and unknown; because of this people do not know when and for what they will be disciplined and what the consequence will be for breaking these unknown changing rules.

I know that Van Buren has wonderful, dedicated people from the top down. The other "fly-specking" is Mr. Van Tassel at board meetings pumping up the members telling them how good they are. I ask the board to keep an eye on the pulse of everyone in the district and tap into the creativity of the staff and community to achieve the desired bottom line results.

I know that more of the encouraging discipline and less fear, intimidation, reprimand, belittling, and adversarial confrontations would lead to creativity, understanding and growth.

When teachers are under constant

pressure, students feel it and react; I'm concerned about this cycle, it affects our students adversely. I know the staff no longer feels like a family working for the good of the students. Stress is draining the energy of the staff.

I want Van Buren to succeed and be healthy; the board is an integral part of making that happen. The problem is greater than each incident alone. The problem is the prevailing unhealthy atmosphere that is being created. I know that people are continually on edge, waiting for the next incident to happen. I want to encourage you to work for the good of all.

People understand cuts when integrity, fiscal accountability, and understanding are used and when equality of sacrifice is obvious. It is difficult to understand using subversive intimidating measures when human kindness and creative methods are available. You will reach the bottom line but what will the bottom line look like.

Achieving the bottom line using creativity and collaboration is always better for everyone and it looks totally different than using fear and intimidation. There are right now many teachers new through seasoned who have done valuable work positively changing the lives of our children and curriculum work for Van Buren and the State of Michigan whose spirits are broken.

These teachers are discouraged and no longer want to work for Van Buren, this is now included in the bottom line as it stand right now. Hurting and demoralized staff members will not help the school system grow and be healthy, even when they are saying nothing; it comes across to the students like an unhappy marriage is felt by the children.

My thoughts and prayers are with all of you.
Sincerely,
Eva Marie Harris
Elwell Elementary School, 1985-2010

"Laws control the lesser man...
Right conduct controls the greater one."
Mark Twain

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VBT Community Services Dept., Senior Center are cooling stations

Van Buren Township Parks and Recreation Director Jennifer Wright issued an invitation to the public last week.

"During Excessive Heat Advisories please feel free to come to the VBT Community Services Department and/or September Days Senior Center, 46425 Tyler Road, to cool off during regular business hours."

Hours are 7:30 a.m. to 8:50 p.m., Mondays through Thursday; 7:30 a.m. to 7:30 p.m. on Fridays; 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Saturdays; and noon to 6 p.m. on Sundays.

For more information, call 734-699-8921 or 734-699-8918

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734-282-1700

Van Buren Township Police Dispatch Log

The following are selected runs for VBT Police. For more detailed police logs, see www.belleveilleareaindependent.com.

Sunday, July 1:

0003 – malicious destruction of property, 6602 Doree Ave.
0116 – breaking & entering, 13101 Barnwell Dr.
0427 – shots fired, 8993 Springwood Blvd.
0509 – intimidation threat, 48910 Denton Rd.
0611 – intimidation threat, 45707 S. I-94 Service
0818 – noise complaint, Togowtee Pass / Cobblestone Dr.
0955 – lake complaint x 2, Denton/Belleveille
1058 – juvenile complaint, 9555 Van Buren St.
1240 – dumping complaint, 49230 Michigan Ave.
1406 – personal injury accident, 10915 Belleveille
1434 – narcotics crime, 45322 Ecorse Rd.
1512 – lake complaint, Denton/Belleveille
1915 – operating while intoxicated, Huron River Boat Launch
1955 – larceny, 49081 Denton Rd.
2019 – assault & battery, 51202 Sylvia Dr.
2031 – larceny, 312 Holly Lane
2135 – fight, 49000 Denton
2217 – fireworks, Rogers Ave./Maurice Dr.
2243 – child abuse, 144 Cherry Ln.

Monday, July 2:

0000 – harassment call, 49120 Denton
0034 – missing person, 14654 Brookside Dr.
0150 – man down/welfare check, Aspen Ln./S. Ponderosa Trl.
0237 – private property accident, Oak Ln./N. I-94 Service Dr.
0243 – assault & battery, 94 N. Ponderosa Trl.
0612 – larceny from auto, 8652 Haggerty Rd.
0745 – breaking & entering, Beckley/S. I-94 Service Dr.
0754 – water leak found, 49412 Michigan Ave.
0839 – water leak found, Ecorse/Denton
0956 – felony assault, Haggerty/E. Huron River
1017 – larceny, 46040 Lake Villa Dr.
1140 – assault & battery, 47827 W. Huron River
1156 – larceny from auto, 11086 Oak Lane
1316 – property damage accident, 2181 Rawsonville Rd.
1435 – harassment call, 6663 Rogers Ave.
1453 – malicious destruction of property, 9043 Parkwood Dr.
1554 – private property accident, 6735 Haggerty
1600 – suspicious situation, Wireless Toys
1602 – fireworks, 49344 Bemis Rd.
1924 – operating while intoxicated, 8925 Parkwood Dr.
2051 – assault & battery, 6 Pine Dr.
2106 – PPO violation, 94 N. Ponderosa Trl.
2222 – noise complaint, 10895 Oak Lane
2228 – juvenile complaint, 8800 Parkwood Manor
2256 – fireworks, Morton Taylor/Tyler
2331 – assault & battery, 9035 Parkwood Dr.
2332 – assault & battery, 7202 Belle Pointe Dr.

Tuesday, July 3:

0014 – disorderly conduct, 2235 Rawsonville
0039 – suspicious person, Beck Ball Field
0248 – shots fired, 8800 Parkwood Manor
0851 – property damage accident, SB I-275/Tyler
1224 – property damage accident, Haggerty/ E. Huron River Dr.
1511 – larceny, 7580 Belleveille Rd.
1707 – larceny from auto, 5873 Dellor St.
1724 – malicious destruction of property, 17255 Renton Rd.
1857 – intimidation threat, 8925 Parkwood Dr.
1932 – trespassing, 51005 Old Michigan Rd.
1948 – intimidation threat, 6577 Maurice Dr.
1954 – retail fraud, 51341 W. Huron River Dr., Rite Aid

2231 – disorderly conduct, 46615 Ecorse Rd.
2258 – noise complaint, 6549 Outer Dr.

Wednesday, July 4:

0015 – fireworks, 8915 Parkwood
0049 – noise complaint, 11098 Buchanan St.
0115 – disorderly conduct, 33 Brandi
0222 – assault & battery, 45707 S. I-94 Service
0310 – breaking & entering, 12692 Hannan Rd.
0345 – assault & battery, 51334 Capitol Dr.
0401 – disorderly conduct, 40036 Edison Lake Rd.
0541 – noise complaint, 158 Aspen Ln.

0835 – hospice, 42672 E. Huron River Dr.
1024 – larceny, 41001 E. Huron River Dr.
1105 – domestic violence, 13135 Vista Dr.
1201 – lake complaint, Belleveille/Quirk
1357 – disorderly conduct, BP gas
1413 – harassment call, 10894 Oak Ln.
1457 – property damage accident, Belleveille/I-94
1513 – disorderly conduct, 45707 S. I-94 Service
1554 – disorderly conduct, Van Buren Park
1640 – operating while intoxicated, Old Michigan Rd. / Outer Dr.
1736 – ATV/ORV complaint, McBride/Jackson
1933 – breaking & entering, 6892 Edwards Rd.
2013 – fireworks, 48551 S. I-94 Service Dr.
2125 – robbery, 10990 Lighthouse Dr.
2142 – private property accident, 5206 Westlake
2141 – fireworks, 221 S. Ponderosa Trl.
2152 – loud party complaint, 13675 Beacon Trl.
2200 – fireworks, 41462 W. Archwood Dr.
2201 – fireworks, 11560 Beckley
2201 – assault & battery, 11511 Lake Crest
2204 – fireworks, 217 S. Ponderosa Trl.
2219 – fireworks, W. Walden/Celestine
2220 – fireworks, Park Estates
2223 – fireworks, 51173 Landmark
2223 – disturbance, Briarwood Dr./Briarwood Ct.
2230 – fireworks, 8846 Hardwood Dr.
2323 – breaking & entering, 14356 Wildbrook Dr.

Thursday, July 5:

0003 – fireworks, 877 W. Huron River Dr.
0040 – fireworks, 855 W. Huron River Dr.
0103 – breaking & entering, 6687 Rogers Ave.
1156 – animal bite, 49209 Sonrisa St.
1305 – intimidation threat, 51005 Old Michigan
1325 – breaking & entering, 15880 Haggerty
1502 – property damage accident, 45295 Ecorse
1510 – missing person, 51129 Assembly St.
1545 – larceny, 6522 Parkside Dr.
1925 – disturbance, Walmart
2016 – assault & battery, Rawsonville/Capitol Dr.
2240 – fireworks, 41533 S. Bellridge Dr.
2333 – narcotics crime, 11685 Meadows Ln.

Friday, July 6:

0046 – assault & battery, 41441 S. Bellridge Dr.
0229 – noise complaint, 158 Aspen
0443 – assault & battery, 46000 bl. Lake Villa Dr.
0820 – malicious destruction of property, 6517 Anna Dr.
0820 – malicious destruction of property, 42736 Maude Ct.
1157 – loitering, Belleveille/Quirk
1200 – larceny, 185 S. Ponderosa Trl.
1209 – larceny, 9113 Parkwood Dr.
1229 – larceny from auto, 51300 W. Huron River
1229 – assault & battery, 50778 Michigan Ave.
1427 – property damage accident, Tyler/Haggerty
1455 – harassment call, 43183 Fret Rd.
1622 – malicious destruction of property, 6387 E. Salie Ln.
1653 – trespassing, 10591 Oaklane
1656 – personal injury accident, Ecorse/Haggerty
1830 – malicious destruction of property, 8815 Hardwood Dr.

2116 – intimidation threat, 6060 Vernon St.
2156 – fireworks, 9648 Jackson St.
2224 – fireworks, Madison/Dorchester
2235 – fireworks, 45919 Wild Rye
2349 – noise complaint, 42 Park Estates

Saturday, July 7:

0006 – disorderly conduct, 49345 S. I-94 Service
0116 – property damage accident, Tyler Rd. / Springwood Blvd.
0117 – fireworks, 49750 Martz
0155 – suspicious situation, 50521 W. Huron River Dr., Pine Creek
0257 – assault & battery, 6512 Outer Dr.
0919 – larceny, 12924 Linda Vista Ct.
1256 – trespassing, 47001 Water's Edge Ln.
1618 – assault & battery, 46000 Lake Villa Dr.
1642 – assault & battery, 8877 Parkwood Dr.
1657 – property damage accident, Hidden Cove
1831 – disorderly conduct, Van Buren Park
1854 – private property accident, Van Buren Park
1937 – disturbance, Walden Woods
2158 – noise complaint, 42 Park Estates
2204 – fireworks, 91 Park Estate
2244 – disturbance, 45707 S. I-94 Service Dr.
2306 – larceny, 9894 Belleveille Rd.
2308 – fireworks, 14497 Pond Bluff Dr.
2329 – harassment call, 8742 Hardwood Dr.
2346 – fraud, Meijer

Also on this week's log are 168 traffic stops, 33 of which were on the freeways: I-94 and I-275.

Belleveille Police Dispatch Log

Sunday, July 1:

0119 – fireworks, 1 Capistrano
0134 – intrusion alarm, 496 Main St.
1215 – miscellaneous complaint, 300 Sumpter
1246 – assist fire dept., 200 Henry St.
1744 – intrusion alarm, 843 Sumpter Rd.
2215 – fireworks, Victorian Lane/Savage Rd.
2227 – suspicious vehicle, Village Park

Monday, July 2:

0017 – intrusion alarm, 843 Sumpter Rd.
0040 – suspicious person, 843 Sumpter Rd.
0115 – property check, Hillside Cemetery
0909 – intrusion alarm, BHS
1013 – intrusion alarm, BHS
1017 – agency assist, 6 Main St.
1034 – welfare check, 237 Main St.
1139 – property damage accident, Church/Roys
1150 – intrusion alarm, BHS
1232 – intimidation threat, 241 Church
1355 – miscellaneous complaint, 375 N. Liberty
1457 – intrusion alarm, 203 N. Aberdeen Ct.
2118 – animal complaint, 369 Victorian Ct.

Tuesday, July 3:

0431 – intrusion alarm, 843 Sumpter Rd.
1530 – intrusion alarm, 78 W. Wabash Ave.
1538 – civil matter, 54 Biggs Ave.
1543 – welfare check, 106 Clarence St.
1602 – bank drop, 6 Main St.
1848 – intrusion alarm, 242 E. Huron River Dr.
2043 – suspicious situation, Victory Park
2118 – civil matter, 6 Main St.

Wednesday, July 4:

0753 – assist fire dept., 500 Robbe St.
1237 – P.b.t. alcohol, 6 Main St.
1316 – animal complaint, 179 Belle Villa Blvd.
1422 – assist fire dept., 19 Carnell St.
1850 – private property accident, Lakeview
2014 – intrusion alarm, 843 Sumpter Rd.
2036 – assist fire dept., 237 Main St.
2043 – fireworks, 216 Victorian Ln.
2206 – agency assist, 11511 Lake Crest
2232 – fireworks, 492 E. Waterbury Ct.

Thursday, July 5:

0025 – fireworks, Breakwater Dr./Harbour Pointe
0507 – intrusion alarm, 575 Sumpter, Co-op Apts.
0528 – intrusion alarm, 201 Third St.
0727 – warrant arrest, I-275/Sibley
1331 – assist fire dept., 25 Owen
1441 – child abuse, 444 Main St.
1548 – intimidation threat, 6 Main St.
1636 – intimidation threat, 112 W. Davis St.
1659 – welfare check, 327 Church St.
1818 – follow-up, 91 Potter Dr.
1927 – suspicious vehicle, Angola St./E. Huron River Dr.

2118 – assist fire dept., 305 Edison Ave.
2239 – noise complaint, Menlo Park/Carnell
2244 – fireworks, Belle Villa Blvd/Sumpter Rd.
2347 – welfare check, 110 Wexford Ave.

Friday, July 6:

0207 – property check, BHS
1126 – property damage accident, Belleveille/Main
1518 – motorist assist, 285 South St.
1809 – malicious destruction of property, 883 Sumpter Rd.
2051 – suspicious situation, Main/N. Liberty St.
2121 – private property accident, 562 Main St.
2334 – suspicious situation, 328 Church St.

Saturday, July 7:

0506 – agency assist, 15400 Sumpter
1232 – larceny, 506 Harbour Pointe Dr.
1257 – assist fire dept., 575 Sumpter, Co-op Apts.
1608 – civil matter, 48 Carnell St.
1954 – traffic complaint, Hayward's
2047 – follow up, 81 Menlo Park Dr.

Also on this week's log are 28 traffic stops.

Sumpter Township Police Dispatch Log

Sunday, July 1:

0011 – animal complaint, 7000 bl. Oakville Waltz
0110 – fire dept. assist, 19000 bl. Clark Rd.
1551 – alarm, 40000 bl. Bemis Rd.
1558 – civil dispute, 23000 bl. Sumpter Rd.

1630 – alarm, 24000 bl. Bohn Rd.
1635 – citizen assist, 50000 bl. Willow Rd.
1718 – suspicious vehicle, 48000 bl. Willow Rd.
1823 – down wires, Karr/Judd
1827 – odor investigation, New Mexico
1835 – alarm, 25000 bl. Haggerty Rd.
1930 – property damage accident, 23000 bl. Sumpter Rd.
1952 – citizen assist, 49000 bl. Willis Rd.
2050 – fire dept. assist, 26000 bl. Sumpter Rd.
2115 – property damage accident, 25000 bl. Haggerty Rd.

2200 – suspicious incident, 44000 bl. Willis Rd.
2214 – traffic hazard, 48000 bl. Judd Rd.
2231 – warrant arrest, out of the township
2317 – fire dept. assist, 21000 bl. Haggerty Rd.

Monday, July 2:

0049 – assist other agency, 44000 bl. Willis Rd.
0142 – fire dept. assist, Nevada
0312 – breaking & entering report, Willis / Rawsonville
0350 – fire dept. assist, Dakota
1058 – alarm, 24000 bl. Sumpter Rd.
1119 – animal complaint, Arkona/Haggerty
1219 – alarm, 20000 bl. Haggerty Rd.
1455 – suspicious incident, 17000 bl. Elwell Rd.
1633 – suspicious person, 20000 bl. Haggerty Rd.
1821 – malicious destruction of property report, 43000 bl. Willis Ct.
1900 – neighbor dispute, Edgewood
1922 – alarm, 23000 bl. Sumpter Rd.
2155 – family trouble, 40000 bl. Judd Rd.

Tuesday, July 3:

0420 – fire dept. assist, Carriage
0700 – alarm, 27000 bl. Sumpter Rd.
1010 – property damage accident, 50000 bl. Bemis
1029 – animal complaint, 27000 bl. Sherwood Rd.
1326 – animal complaint, 23000 bl. Karr Rd.
1714 – citizen assist, 23000 bl. Sumpter Rd.
1841 – indecent exposure, 24000 Elwell Rd.
1936 – traffic hazard, 20000 bl. Elwell Rd.
2121 – fire dept. assist, New Mexico
2322 – traffic hazard, Willow Rd.

Wednesday, July 4:

0256 – suspicious incident, 40000 bl. Willow Rd.
0409 – suspicious person, 17000 bl. Sumpter Rd.
0543 – animal complaint, Sumpter/Harris
1156 – civil dispute, New Mexico
1308 – assist other agency, 24000 bl. Elwell Rd.
1356 – disorderly person, Sherwood/Wear
1449 – suspicious incident, Willis/Haggerty
1804 – disorderly person, 24000 bl. Sherwood Rd.
1825 – assault, 42000 bl. Willow Rd.
1830 – family trouble, Brookview
1926 – assault, 42000 bl. Willow Rd.
2010 – neighbor dispute, Wyoming
2130 – neighbor dispute, New Mexico
2337 – citizen assist, 47000 bl. Arkona Rd.

Thursday, July 5:

0002 – larceny, 19000 bl. Sumpter Rd.
0241 – warrant arrest, out of the township
0521 – alarm, 8500 bl. Rawsonville Rd.
0541 – alarm, 23000 bl. Sumpter Rd.
0556 – alarm, 47000 bl. Bemis Rd.
0600 – fire dept. assist, Rustic Lane
0615 – alarm, 23000 bl. Sumpter Rd.
0631 – disorderly person, 22000 bl. Carleton West
1015 – assault, 42000 bl. Willow Rd.
1328 – fire dept. assist, 21000 bl. Sherwood Rd.
1442 – warrant arrest, Country Club
1950 – fire dept. assist, 24000 bl. Sherwood Rd.
2109 – fire dept. assist, 40000 bl. Judd Rd.
2132 – fireworks complaint, 17000 bl. Elwell Rd.

Friday, July 6:

0023 – citizen assist, 23000 bl. Sumpter Rd.
0309 – off road vehicle complaint, 49000 bl. Judd
0902 – fire dept. assist, New Mexico
0948 – warrant arrest, 10000 bl. Rawsonville Rd.
1201 – suspicious vehicle, Judd/Karr
1342 – suspicious vehicle, 45000 bl. Arkona Rd.
1541 – property damage accident, 50000 bl. Willis
1556 – suspicious person, 22000 bl. Elwell Rd.
1759 – alarm, 51000 bl. Willis Rd.
1918 – disorderly person, 24000 bl. Sherwood Rd.
2137 – fireworks complaint, 45000 bl. Paris Dr.
2144 – operating while intoxicated, 3600 bl. Oakville Waltz Rd.

2353 – fire dept. assist, 46000 bl. Harris Rd.

Saturday, July 7:

0022 – warrant arrest, Sumpter/Oakville Waltz
0805 – larceny, 19000 bl. Karr Rd.
0856 – fire dept. assist, 43000 Willow Rd.

(continued on page 16)

Man charged for assaulting woman trying to help pregnant friend

By Rosemary K. Otzman
Independent Editor

Van Lloyd Allison, 36, of Country Club Drive in Sumpter Township has been charged with Assault to Do Great Bodily Harm Less Murder, after beating up his live-in girlfriend's friend.

Sumpter Township Police Detective John Toth said the case started at 2:56 a.m. June 10 when police were called to Allison's home he shares with his girlfriend, who is pregnant.

Det. Toth said allegedly Allison was assaulting his pregnant girlfriend and the woman's friend, from another street nearby, was present and told Allison not to do that, reminding him the woman was pregnant.

That's when Allison allegedly switched his focus to the neighbor and began fighting her and beating her.

He allegedly said, "You're going to make me go to jail for this. I'm going to do it right and go to prison."

He then proceeded to stomp, kick, and punch the woman, Det. Toth said.

While Allison was beating on the woman, his pregnant girlfriend ran out the front door and got in a car to escape. Allison chased her vehicle on foot which gave the victim time to escape out the back door.

While she was running, she was found by her friend in the car and they escaped together and called police.

The victim was taken to St. Joseph Mercy Hospital where she was treated and released.

Det. Toth said originally Allison was not

charged correctly by the Wayne County Prosecutor's office, approving only a simple charge of Assault and Battery and then Domestic Violence.

But, at the pretrial exam last week at 34th District Court, the prosecutor's domestic violence unit looked at the pictures of the victim from that night and increased the charge to Assault to Do Great Bodily Harm Less Murder.

Allison was due to be back at 34th District Court at 1 p.m. July 11 for a pre-exam, during which he may waive his preliminary exam and go right to Circuit Court for trial. If he chooses to have his preliminary exam, it will be held at 9 a.m., July 18.

Det. Toth said Allison may be found to be a fourth-time, habitual offender.

Det. Toth said the longer our economy stays in its recession, the more violent the domestic cases get. He said he believes there is a connection.

He said domestic cases used to be mainly pushing and shoving, but now when police arrive, they see a lot of blood.

Van Buren Fire Dept. Duty Crews busy on the Fourth of July

During the 4th of July Duty Crew Shifts (6 a.m. Wednesday through 6 a.m. Thursday) the Van Buren Township Fire Department responded to 20 calls in a 24-hour period, but none were fireworks related.

Interim Fire Chief Dan Besson said in a report that the crews were dealing with a stifling 101-degree day (according to Accu-weather.com). They responded to a stove fire, a dumpster fire, and multiple power-line problems brought on by an overnight storm, in addition to the usual medical emergencies.

The breakdown of calls:
Dumpster Fire: 1
Stove Fire: 1
Medical Emergencies – Fire Department arrived first: 9

Medical Emergencies – Huron Valley Ambulance arrived first: 4

Powerline/ Utility Calls: 2

Cancelled en route: 3

At the end of the 24-hour period, Chief Besson and the crew of Engine 2 (D. Wilson & J. Rose) stopped and assisted a stranded township resident whose vehicle had broken down in a travel lane on Belleville Road. Once fire personnel resolved the problem, they verified she made it safely to her next destination.

The Duty Crews also assisted in the rapid transport of a male patient that had been

knocked unconscious after being accidentally struck by a crowbar. HVA, along with VBFD personnel, transported the male to St. Joseph Hospital in Ann Arbor.

Paid-on-call personnel were dispatched to assist the Duty Crews three times, Besson said.

Engine 1 responded on 12 calls and Engine 2 responded on 10 calls.

Besson praised fire fighters on the Fourth of July shift by saying they "did a very nice job." On the shift were fire fighters Wilson, Rose, Hayes, Henderson, Marcotte, and Schultz.

Sumpter Township Police Dispatch Log

(continued from page 15)

- 1012 – suspicious vehicle, 23000 bl. Sumpter Rd.
 - 1039 – disorderly person, 50000 bl. Willis Rd.
 - 1438 – larceny, 45000 bl. Arkona Rd.
 - 1600 – threats complaint, Birch
 - 1620 – well-being check, Nevada
 - 2014 – warrant arrest, out of the township
 - 2041 – threats complaint, 17000 bl. Martinsville
 - 2212 – fire dept. assist, 41000 bl. Harris Rd.
 - 2232 – fireworks complaint, 46000 bl. Willis Rd.
 - 2307 – traffic hazard, Harris/Sumpter
 - 2317 – malicious destruction of property report, 28000 bl. Martinsville Rd.
 - 2333 – fireworks complaint, 50000 bl. Willis Rd.
 - 2356 – civil dispute, 50000 bl. Willis Rd.
- Also on this week's log are 6 follow-up investigations, 23 miscellaneous details, 121 patrol checks, and 52 traffic stops.

INDEPENDENT CLASSIFIED ADS

GARAGE/YARD SALE
RAWSONVILLE WOODS
COMMUNITY
YARD SALE
July 20, 21, 22
10am - 5pm
Each Day
734-461-6700

LARGE SALE - 45141 HARRIS RD. Belleville, off of Sumpter Rd. July 12-14, 9-4 p.m. Household items, Tools, Men and Women's clothes, Christmas decorations, Furniture. 7/12

50300 BOGRD. off of Rawsonville Rd. July 12-14, 9-4 p.m. Golf & Baby items, 8' truck cap, china cabinet, very lg. air compressor, glider rocker & stool, men's clothes, weight bench, end tables and more. 7/12

GARAGE/MOVING SALE. 43473 S. Timberview Dr. in Walden Woods. July 14-15, 10-8:30 p.m. 7/12

8248 STONEHAM off Stony Creek & Bemis Rds. July 12-14, 8-4 p.m. Many Household & Holiday items, Furniture. Something for Everyone. Bonus: Annual Flowers for sale. 7/12

47592 DENTON RD., July 12-14, 9-5 p.m. Electronics, Furniture, Books, plus many other items. 7/12

HUGE OUTDOOR SALE. Ypsilanti Moose Lodge. 5506 Stoney Creek Rd./Whittaker Rd July 21, 9- 4 p.m. Something for Everyone. 7/19

ESTATE SALE - 7266 WILLIS RD. July 12-14, 9-4 p.m. Furniture, Beauty Shop & Office equipment, Household, Collectibles, Toys. Rain or Shine items will be under a tent. 7/19

48270 MARTZ RD. July 6-23, 9-7 pm. 2 Dr. Refrig., 10" Radial saw, Antiques, Household, Hand tools, Boat motor, Machine shop tools, Clearing Garage & Basement. New Stuff Everyday. Don't Miss Out. 7/19

FOR SALE
 WAGON WHEELS, 2/\$150, Iron pot, \$45, Plant stand, \$8, Cast furniture (3 pcs.) \$125, Weed whacker, \$25, Donut tire, \$10, Freezer, \$40, Rotisserie, \$40. (734) 699-2115 7/12

MOVING - VIEWING BY APPT. JULY 21, 2012. Lincoln Continental, 106,000 miles, Flooring, T.V., Lamps, Tables, Dining table/chairs, Bedding, Tupperware. (702) 292-6666 leave message. 7/19

FOR SALE
 18" SANYO T.V. \$50. (734) 697-2250 7/19

SOLID OAK 8 DRAWER DRESSER with tri-mirror. \$550 Must see to appreciate. (734) 787-5948 7/19

DESIGNER CLOTHING (Hollister, Juicy, Ed Hardy) some brand new. Teen, Pre-teen Men & Women's. Also Baby & Toddler items & clothing. Must See to Believe. (734) 444-9989 Kim 7/26

GENERAL ELECTRIC SMART Water 40 gal. gas hot water tank. New \$200. (734) 309-2073 7/26

BOAT LOADER - Electric, Loads to top of vehicle. \$700w/extras. Handi Quilter - Holds sewing machine to quilt baby to king size. \$300 (734) 699-6698 7/19

VEHICLE FOR SALE
C.T.S. AUTO Engines, Transmissions
Discount Prices - Guaranteed!
(734) 282-1700 TFN

1996 BLAZER 4x4. 4 Dr., 150,000 miles 85,000 on engine, Sony DV player. Very Clean. \$3000 obo. Call for Details. (734) 624-7604 7/12

PETS/LIVESTOCK
 AMERICAN BULLDOG/PIT PUPPIES. 9 wks old, females, first shots. \$75 To a Good Home. (734) 985-1779 7/19

BEAUTIFUL PEACOCKS. 3 for \$100 or \$40 each. (734) 697-0903 7/26

WANTED
WANTED:
JUNK CARS
Running or Not. Top \$
Paid. Call For Free
Pickup. Drive In For
Extra Dollars.
734-282-1700

WE BUY
JUNK CARS
7 Days A Week For
\$300 & Up!
Cash Paid!
(734) 787-1444

WANTED
 ST.VINCENT DePAUL is in need of your CLEAN in Working Condition useable stoves, refrigerators, washers & dryers. For needy families in Belleville, Van Buren & Sumpter areas. (734) 461-2763 TFN

WANTED - ANY SIZE MEN'S JEANS for the homeless. Please drop off at Bladez's 601 E. Huron River Drive. (734) 697-5600 TFN

WANTED - SMALL CONTAINERS of Shampoo, Toothpaste, etc. to take to homeless in Detroit. Drop off at Bladez's, 601 E. Huron River Dr. (734) 697-5600 TFN

GENE & SON TOWING. WE BUY Junk Cars. Top Dollar paid. We pick up. 7 days a week. (734) 502-4017 or (734) 686-1250 7/12

WANTED - FEMALE ROOMMATE. Non/smoker, Share rent & Utilities, No pets. (734) 772-2019 Kim 7/12

LOOKING FOR CARPENTER TO DO small jobs. Dry wall, install face boards & painting in my home. (734) 915-7297 7/26

FREE
 PAULINE IWAO - HIGH ST. YOU'VE Won a dozen free roses. Pick them up at Main St. Flower's downtown, Belleville. www.mainstreetflowers.com or (734) 697-7400 TFN

FREE ENTERTAINMENT STAND. You pick up. (734) 783-2480 or (734) 732-9557 Jen or Ken 7/19

FREE 6 WEEK ZUMBA CLASSES for women. Starts July 23 @ 7 p.m. Cornerstone Christian Church, 44500 Willis Rd. Meet Mondays 7 p.m. Must Register. (734) 753-4226 7/19

FOUND
 FOUND - WOMAN'S WATCH. June 21 at Meijer's gas station. Call to identify. (734) 697-2750 7/12

YOUNG FEMALE CAT with black/tan markings. Found on Willis Rd. June 13th, nails clipped. (734) 796-0869 7/19

LOST
 LOST CAT - BLACK & BROWN Tabby cat, bald spot on right leg. Vicinity of 250 N. Liberty since June 26th. Call and leave message. (734) 334-6399 7/19

One Call Does It All . . .
. . . At the Independent
699-9020

SERVICES
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Call FIRST CLASS LANDSCAPING
(734) 699-4711
FREE ESTIMATES!!!
YEAR ROUND SERVICES
Weekly Mowing, Aerations,
De-Thatching, Seed & Sod,
Tree, Brush & Stump Removal
And Much More!
www.FIRSTCLASSLANDSCAPING.net

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Electrical, Plumbing,
Ceramic Tile, Kitchens & Bath.
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1995. Call Aaron Schultz
@ 734-740-0628

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Gerry's Small Engine
and Equipment Repair
 Tractors, Lawn, Garden & Small Construction Equipment
Gerry Gentz
 Willis, MI **734-461-0158**

Sarvis - N - Sons Cement
 Belleville, Michigan
Match or Beat All Competitor's
Prices! Free Estimates.
Veterans & Senior Discounts.
(734) 497-5888

LOCAL HANDYMAN - SOME Jobs too LARGE - NO JOB too SMALL. Residential Power Washing. LICENSED & REFERENCES. (734) 765-9224 TFN

C.T.S. AUTO Engines, Transmissions Discount Prices - Guaranteed !!! (734) 282-1700 TFN

DEPENDABLE LAWN SERVICE. COMMERCIAL & RESIDENTIAL Lawn Cutting - Spring Clean-Up - Aerating - Mulch - Shrub Trimming - Pruning - Brick Pavers & De-thatching. (734) 587-2410 or (734) 693-4712 9/27

R & M HANDYMAN SERVICE (734) 306-8909 Specialize in Mobile Homes. Painting, Power Wash, Stain Decks, Home Repairs. 7/26

WEST BRANCH BUILDERS. Licensed & Insured. Residential & Commercial. Specializing in Storm Damage. Free Estimates. (734) 476-1098 8/06

Johnson in jail

(continued from page 3)

a handgun that had been stolen during the rash of Denton subdivision break-ins earlier this year.

On June 14, Judge Parrott approved the request of Johnson's court-appointed attorney Jeffrey Bowdich for an adjournment to July 5, because Bowdich had just been appointed and needed time to prepare the case.

Bowdich also had represented Johnson in a recent case where Johnson pled guilty to one charge of receiving and concealing, in a plea deal that dropped two additional receiving and concealing charges.

On June 7, Judge Tina Brooks Green sentenced Johnson to one year of probation, eight days on the court work program, \$700 in restitution to the victim, and \$525 fines and costs.

On June 14, Johnson told Judge Parrott that he now has a job and has been working for a week at \$11 per hour. He said he pays \$36 per week in child support and presently is living with his parents.

Johnson was arrested April 4 by Van Buren Township Police when he was seen carrying a stolen flat-screen TV to his then-residence in the 6500 block of Parkside in Town and Country mobile home park.

Police executed a search warrant at his residence and a large cache of jewelry and electronics were seized, along with prescription narcotic bottles from prior break-ins in Denton Subdivision – and, apparently, a handgun.

Police had been investigating the rash of home invasions in the Denton Subdivision area from November through April amid public uproar.

Kovach suit

(continued from page 1)

divisions based upon information the Township possessed from the beginning.

“No one at the township advised either Mr. Morris or Mr. Kovach these divisions were prohibited (in the Township Ordinance) and both men relied to their detriment,” the petition states.

On behalf of his client, Day asks the court for an order of Mandamus directing the township to approve the divisions as authorized by the Land Division Act. Also, the township should be estopped from raising any defenses against this action.

Kids' Jazzercamp coming to VBT Recreation Dept. July 23, 24, 26

The Van Buren Township Recreation Department will hold Kids' Jazzercamp on July 23, 24, and 26, from noon to 3 p.m. each day.

The event is geared for children 6-11 years old and costs \$89 per child. Participants will take part in daily dance technique, hip hop moves, relay races, arts and crafts, games, healthy snacks eating, performance routines, and more. Discounts are available for siblings. For information or to register, call Holly Haddell at (734) 644-4656.

INDEPENDENT CLASSIFIED ADS

MOBILE HOME FOR SALE

AUGUSTA WOODS - Modular Home, 1900 sq. ft., 3 BR., 2 bath. \$39,000 obo (734) 985-1779 7/19

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All real estate advertising in this newspaper is subject to the Fair Housing Act which makes it illegal to advertise "any preference, limitation or discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status or national origin, or an intention, to make any such preference, limitation or discrimination." Familial status includes children under the age of 18 living with parents or legal custodians, pregnant women and people securing custody of children under 18.

This newspaper will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate which is in violation of the law. Our readers are hereby informed that all dwellings advertised in this newspaper are available on an equal opportunity basis. To complain of discrimination call HUD toll-free at 1-800-669-9777. The toll-free telephone number for the hearing impaired is 1-800-927-9275.



Julianne Chard to be Aug. 7 Rep. write-in for VBT Supervisor

Julianne Chard, 49029 Togowtee Lane, Van Buren Township has filed as a write-in candidate for Van Buren Township Supervisor in the Aug. 7 primary election. There are no other Republicans running for supervisor.

There are four candidates for supervisor on the Democratic ticket: Incumbent Paul White, Linda Combs, Larry Fix, and Tim Szetela.

The township just learned it will also be running a September special election to fill the seat of Congressman Thaddeus McCotter, who suddenly resigned. The new Congressional redistricting does not go into effect until 2014.

Birthdays

- July 12 – Rachel Newsome
- July 13 – Lily Blackburn
- July 24 – Antonio Cruz Neri

Do you have a birthday in July? Does anyone you know have a birthday soon? Call the *Independent* at 699-9020 and let us know. We'll list it in this column ASAP following your call. There is no charge.

VBT Local Development Finance Authority cancels meeting; no quorum

The regularly scheduled meeting of the Van Buren Township Local Development Finance Authority for 2 p.m., July 10, was cancelled due to lack of quorum. The next meeting is scheduled for 2 p.m., Tuesday, Aug. 14.

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AUCTION

PUBLIC AUCTION
Notice is hereby given that on 07/17/12 at 9:00 a.m., or after, the contents of the following storage units will be sold by competitive bidding at:
U-Lock-It Self Storage LLC
6130 Rawsonville Rd.
Belleville, MI 48111
(734) 482-1502
SPACE #F-34, DARCY THOMPSON – 2 bicycles, 6 boxes, 1 lighted picture, 1 bunk bed ladder, 4 totes, misc. items
SPACE #H-15, ANTHONY WILLIAMS – 6 patio chairs, 1 fan, 4 tires, 1 big tool box, drum set, snow blower, 2 coolers, patio table, treadmill, seed spreader, big stuffed bear, printer, file cabinet, play station games, misc. items

Upcoming Meetings

- Thursday, July 12 – Sumpter Township Planning Commission, 7 p.m. Also, Belleville Planning Commission, 7:30 p.m.
- Monday, July 16 – Van Buren Township Board of Trustees work/study, 4 p.m. Also, Van Buren Public Schools Board of Education work/study, 7 p.m., Administration Building. Also, Belleville City Council, 7:30 p.m.
- Tuesday, July 17 – Van Buren Township Board of Trustees, 7:30 p.m.
- Wednesday, July 18 – South Huron Valley Utility Authority, 10 a.m., Brownstown Township Hall. Also, Van Buren Township Planning Staff Review, 1-4 p.m. Also, VBT Public Safety Committee at Fire Station 2 at 5:30 p.m. Also, Belleville Downtown Development Authority, 6 p.m. Also, VBT Environmental Commission, 7 p.m.
- Thursday, July 19 – Keystone Academy school board, 6 p.m., at Keystone Academy

Things to do in the Belleville area...

- **Thursday, July 12** – Free outdoor concert with the Music of Roy Orbison, Buddy Holley & the Everly Brothers, 7-9 p.m., Horizon Park, High Street, Belleville. Sponsored by the Belleville Area Council for the Arts.
- **Thursday, July 12** – Local author Beverly Jenkins will speak about her Blessings Series, including her newest release “A Wish and a Prayer” at 7 p.m. at the Belleville Area District Library. This is part of the library’s adult summer “Between the Covers” reading program.
- **Friday, July 13** – Van Buren Township Summer Concert Series begins with the Belleville Community Band, 7 p.m., Van Buren Park, South I-94 Service Dr., \$4 per car entry fee at gate
- **Friday, July 13** – Free Outdoor Family Movie Night at Willow United Methodist Church, 36925 Willow Road, New Boston,

734-654-9020. Gathering at 8 p.m., movie begins at 8:30 p.m. Bring a lawn chair or blanket.

• **Saturday, July 14** – Patriots in the Park event, noon to 6 p.m., Wayne County Fairgrounds, 10871 Quirk Rd., put on by Americans for Prosperity and the Willow Run Tea Party Caucus. Emcee Thayrone from WAAM. Free admission, parking is \$5 per car with proceeds going to The Fallen and Wounded Soldiers Fund.

• **Monday, July 16** – Share a cup of coffee and ideas with State Rep. Dian Slavens, D-Canton, from 8 to 9 a.m. at the Belleville Charhouse, 524 Main St., Belleville. From 5 to 6 p.m. she also will be at the Daydream Café, 47192 Michigan Ave., in Canton.

• **Monday, July 16** – Cruisin’ on the Bayou car show on Main Street in Belleville, 6-9 p.m.

• **Thursday, July 19** – Free outdoor concert with Cats & the Fiddler, 7-9 p.m., Horizon Park, High Street in Belleville. Music Lakeside sponsored by the Belleville Area Council for the Arts.

• **Thursday, July 19** – “The Other Book Group” meets at the Bayou Grill at 7 p.m. This month’s book: “Extremely Loud and Incredibly Close” by Jonathan Foer.

• **Thursday, July 19** – Zumba Night begins at 7 p.m. with the Lincoln Golden Ages Seniors. If you like dancing, music, exercising and having fun, this is for you. West Gym at Lincoln High School (parking is available across from the football stadium), 7425 Willis Rd., Ypsilanti. Cost \$10 at the door. For information: 734-484-7045 or 734-483-8366.

13th-annual Gregg Brinkerhoff golf outing is Aug. 4 in Ypsilanti

By Bob Mytych
Independent Sports Editor

Registration deadline is July 28 to take part in the 13th-annual Gregg Brinkerhoff Scholarship Golf Outing, scheduled for Aug. 4 at the Pine View Golf Course in Ypsilanti.

The cost is \$95 per golfer or \$380 per foursome and includes a continental breakfast before the shotgun start at 8 a.m. Golfers will enjoy a the 18-hole scramble format with cart, open driving range, lunch at the turn, refreshments and special events including longest drive, closest to the pin, 50/50 skins, steak dinner, door and raffle prizes and team awards for first through third places.

A one-week vacation stay on Long Lake in Hale, MI also will be awarded.

Sponsorships range from \$50 to \$1,000 and include the event title, dinner, lunch, breakfast, beverage cart, driving range, and hole-flags. Non golfers can support the event by purchasing dinner only tickets for \$25.

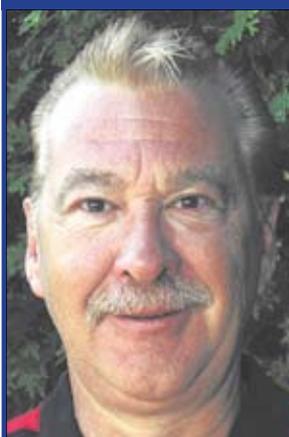
The Gregg Brinkerhoff Memorial Scholarship Fund was established to keep the memory alive of the former teacher and coach at Belleville High School. The outing will provide scholarships to college-bound graduates of BHS.

The 2012 scholarship recipients include Nicole Anderson (Michigan State), Keiandre Marks (Concordia), Aaron Connors (Wayne State), Jacalyn McWilliams (Schoolcraft), Jennifer Overholt (Michigan), and Breanna Robakiewicz. (Eastern Michigan).

To sign up or to learn more about sponsorships and scholarships, call Mike or Beth Sampson at (734) 697-0440 or email bethsamps@ameritech.net.

Early registration is recommended as the event is a sell out each year.

RE-ELECT WILLIAM "BILL" HAMM FOR SUMPTER TOWNSHIP TRUSTEE!



Re-Elect
William "Bill" Hamm
Sumpter Township Trustee

- Active UAW Member 33 Years
- Parks and Recreation Member 5 Years
- Country Fest Co-Chair
- Planning Commission Member

- Building Department Liaison
- Sirens Installed With More to Come
- Sumpter Township State Certified Firefighter
- Certified Medical First Responder
- Certified Advanced PADI/Diver
- Endorsed by Commissioner Kevin McNamara
- Endorsed by Southwestern Wayne Democratic Club
- Endorsed by Sumpter Township Democratic Caucus Club

VOTE: AUGUST 7



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Voices for the People
DEMOCRATS!

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Clarence J. Hoffman, Jr., Clerk
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Alan D. Bates, Trustee
Bill Hamm, Trustee
Peggy Morgan, Trustee
Don Swinson, Trustee

VOTE: AUGUST 7

1. Hired more road patrol officers
2. Hired and certified new firefighters
3. Reduced speed limits on certain roads from 55 to 35
4. Worked diligently on correcting the FEMA flood zone
5. Hired assessing personnel
6. Shared services neighboring communities for cost savings

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Van Buren Township Supervisor

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- Committed to Reducing Costs, including Overtime Costs
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- Fresh Vision for Van Buren Township

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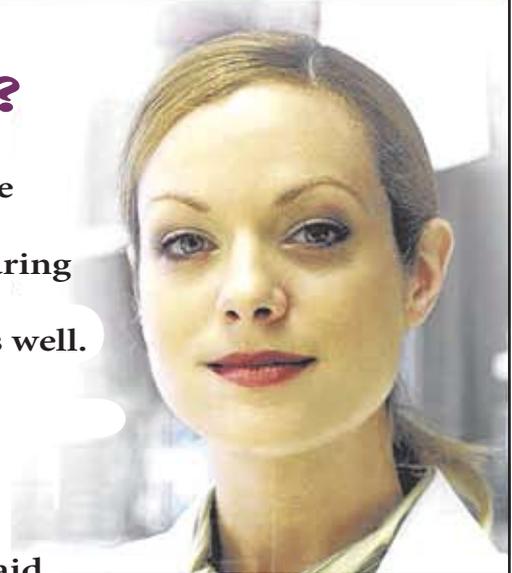
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